

News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF



Dy-No-Mite Bus Driver Day!

By: Rachel Lovingood

The Employee Appreciation Day program kicked off with some 'groovy' happenings across the state. With the Disco 70's theme, bus drivers were greeted at their schools by disco clad students who danced and sang to drivers. They were also honored with various breakfast items and luncheons.

Some schools made tie dyed or other themed shirts for the drivers and most received some type of goodie bag with treats to enjoy throughout the day. There were awesome banners and signs prepared for drivers to see as they pulled up to their schools. The inclement weather did not deter students from arriving early and being energetic in their celebrating of bus drivers.

Every school collected thank you notes in some form for the drivers and many bus drivers took the time to let their school coordinator know just how much they appreciated being appreciated! One driver said "All I can say is that is was awesome. Because of all the appreciation I felt today, I'm going to tell my kids how much I appreciate them".

Another driver sent a thank you note to the students saying "As I drove off I felt special and very much appreciated."

A Hancock County driver, Jerry Holt, simply said "All I can say is WOW this is great!

The benefits of appreciation days are not just for the honorees. Elementary

school student, Andrew Lesueur said "It was cold and hard to get up that morning but it was totally worth it."



**Rogersville Middle School
Girls Basketball Team Presents
Bus Driver Mr. Lewis with Special Cake**

A-Team Newsletters Create Excitement

Utrust is promoting the use of A-Team newsletters to increase the publicity about appreciation day celebrations. They provide a way for the community to get photos and other information showing how students recognize and appreciate the school employees who do things for them every day.

Think how much fun it would be for a newsletter from your school to be received in every state in the US and even by family and friends in foreign countries. In this edition, newsletters from Beech Elementary School and Knox Doss at Drakes Creek Middle School are featured.

the Mustang Message

a newsletter from the KDDC A-Team



Principal: Kenneth Powell

2011 BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY EDITION

Asst. Principal: Jodi Green

Dynomite Notes

By: Ray Cummings

Dynomite notes are thank you notes written by students to their bus drivers. Everyone who rides the bus in the whole school wrote a letter thanking their bus driver. The A-Team took all of the notes and put them into gift bags with all kinds of goodies for them.

One bus driver said "The day was a surprise. I went home and read every single one of the thank you letters." Another bus driver said, "I loved all of the notes, but one from a student who barely says anything to me wrote one that warmed my heart."



Picture taken by Colt Mahoney

Bus Stop

By: Landon Sutton

The bus stop was where we held signs for the bus drivers and sang 70's song to honor and appreciate them. Some A-team members even dressed up in 70's attire for the day.

The goal was to show how much students care about their bus drivers. Getting there early was a little hard but it was worth it! The bus drivers thanked all of us.



Appreciation Rally to honor and recognize those who drive us to and from school each day safely.



Boogie Bags decorated in a 70's theme by A-Team members filled with goodies for all of the bus drivers.



A-Team Members getting into the groove for Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

Principal: Bobbie Elrod

2011 BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY EDITION

Asst.

the beech buzz

a newsletter from the A-Team

Bus Stop

By: Andrew Lesueur

The bus-stop is the name of one of the activities we did to celebrate Bus Driver Appreciation Day. The goal for the Bus Stop was to help bus drivers feel appreciated. It was cold and hard to get up that morning, but it was worth it.

The bus drivers thanked us and even one of the bus drivers had tears of joy. She later wrote a 2 page letter showing her gratitude.

For the 70's theme, the A-Team made some really cool signs and made tie-dyed shirts for each driver. We also had donuts and juice to give to the drivers.



Picture taken by Jay Tharp

Bus Drivers' Favorite 70's Songs

Compiled by: Eric Hall

The bus drivers were asked their favorite 70's song. This is a list of their top 5.

1. Benny and the Jets
2. Goodbye to Yellow Brick Road
3. The Hustle
4. Sweet Caroline
5. China Grove



Appreciation Rally to honor and recognize those who drive us to and from school each day safely.



Totally Hip Signs being made to honor the bus drivers.



A-Team Members making Tie-Dye shirts for the bus drivers.

Each A-Team presented a copy of the newsletter to school bus drivers--the group being honored-- to increase the recognition and honor even more.

The A-Teams followed the suggestions provided by Utrust in the school coordinator packets. Included were all the ideas that the A-Team needs to have a good newsletter. The A-Team added an idea or two to make the results even better.

We hope your A-Team will share a link to your A-Team newsletter. We'd like to feature it in our next issue. A-Team members are excited about the chance to produce a school newsletter about how they're recognizing and appreciating school employees.



Mrs. Olund's Gratitude Gang
with the banner they made.

mrs. olund's gratitude gang

by Eric Hall & Daylen Powell
students at Beech Elementary

The Gratitude Gang is a group of students in Mrs. Olund's Third Grade Class who use their free time to show their gratitude to others.

When Mrs. Olund talked about this idea with her class,

every student wanted to be a part.

The Gratitude Gang was inspired by the efforts of the A-team. The students in Mrs. Olund's class saw the importance of thanking others and letting them know how grateful they are for all they do for them.

For Bus Driver Appreciation Day, they made a banner showing their appreciation for their bus drivers.



Photo by Colt Mahoney



Photo by Jay Tharp



Photo by Landon Sutton

How KDCC
Celebrated



Bus Driver appreciation day

By: Maci Coleman

1. All students wrote thank you notes to give to the Bus Drivers on their special day.
2. A-Team made Boogie Bags filled with treats
3. Held Appreciation Rally the morning of the appreciation day by holding signs and dancing to 70's music where the buses unload each day.
4. 7th & 8th Grade Chorus recorded songs to the tune of Staying Alive, I Will Survive & If You Leave Me Now in honor of the bus drivers and then gave them to the drivers on the appreciation day.
5. Long Hollow Baptist brought cookies and water to give them that afternoon.

JOIN US ON
THE



By: Kristi Coleman

Climb Aboard one of Nashville's most popular showboats and get ready to have a good time. The 12th Annual Membership Appreciation Dinner will be held aboard the General Jackson Showboat on November 13th at 7:00 p.m. Complete your registration form today, as seating is on a first come first served basis.

Come join us for a fun night of entertainment and a delicious meal. We urge you to register your board early if you want them to be able to sit together and when the boat is full we will not be able to pull small row boats behind for those who register late. You won't want this ship to set sail without you. Register [online](#), by [e-mail](#) or mail to guarantee your seat at the dinner.

Our Top 12 Picks



Bus Driver Appreciation Celebrations

Beech Elementary for the tie-dyed t-shirts and other themed goodies they gave the drivers.

Bells for the well-worded press release

Carter's Valley Elementary for their sticky notes and the song to entertain drivers.

Cherokee High for the poem and getting a newspaper article written by students published by the local newspaper

Clarkrange High for the 70's Disco Day and tie dye t-shirts

Fentress County for the PSA on the local radio station and an excellent report complete with photos and highlights around the county.

Jackson County High for braving the wind and cold to honor the bus drivers by playing 70s music on the front steps of school and lining the bridge with white and blue balloons.

Johnson County Middle- for the homemade cupcakes made by students

Lebanon High for honoring drivers at a football game, setting up a table near the lunchroom and asking for signatures and comments for a poster about the drivers, broadcasting a segment on the local radio station and airing it several times during the week.

South Fentress Elementary for holding a short assembly to honor school bus drivers and present each driver with an embroidered polo shirt!

Trousdale County for having 3 bus stops that morning and going above and beyond to include the Pre-K bus and all the assistant riders.

W. A. Wright Elementary for notes and chalk pictures on the sidewalk drawn by the students.



A-Team Members dressed in 70's attire for the appreciation day

KRISTI'S KILLER KUDOS

Dickson County's Powerpoint Presentation about things done in Dickson County Schools to celebrate Bus Driver Appreciation Day gets kudos from me. It's important for the school board to hear and celebrate the things done in the school system for each appreciation day. This powerpoint presentation gives the board the opportunity to do so.

To view it, click <http://vimeo.com/29936396>

DAMERON'S DELIGHTFUL DISTINCTION

The banner from Pathways Alternative School in Hawkins County deserves delightful distinction because of the amount of time and effort by the students in making this memorial. It made me weep.



RACHEL'S RADICAL RECOGNITION

Congrats to Surgoinsville Elementary in Hawkins County for the special details given to their goodie bags for the bus drivers. When you take the time to create a poem to accompany your goodie bags like they did that deserves radical recognition!

DAN'S DANDY DOOZY

The A-Team at Knox Doss at Drakes Creek Middle School asked their school chorus to sing popular 70's songs rewritten to honor school bus drivers. They made CD's with the songs and presented one to each driver as part of their goodie bags at the morning bus stop. The drivers will cherish the CD's forever. To hear the songs, go to <http://www.vimeo.com/29864962>

STaff 's STanding O's

With exciting prizes and new entry rules, we at Utrust have great expectations for the writing competition of this year's Make a Difference Program!

It is open to students and adults who are willing to share their story of a school employee who has made a difference in their lives.

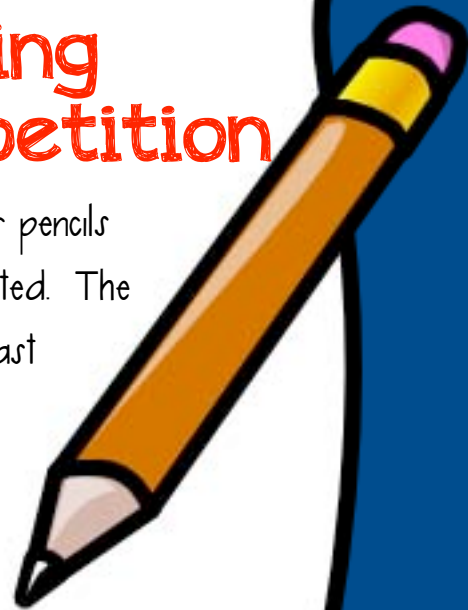
Two separate divisions and seventeen cash prizes mean more opportunities to win so be sure and check out the complete contest rules and regulations at www.tnuct.com.

Remember that when you take the time to show appreciation, everyone wins. Get involved and encourage those around you to share their experiences of employees who have made a difference. Please submit entries to ustrust@tnuct.com by October 31.

Utrust Writing Competition

Sharpen your pencils
and get started. The
deadline is fast
approaching.

Submit entries
by October 31



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