
RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

Tonight, the Board recognizes the following individual for his outstanding achievements and contributions to the Beaverton School District and the community.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Chehalem Elementary School Pages as Pillars Program – Bill Wood

Bill Wood has positively impacted the lives of more than 300 students at Chehalem Elementary School over the last three years with a reading partner program called Pages as Pillars.

In the fall of 2009, Bill contacted Principal, Debbie Nicolai, and asked how he could help the children. Being familiar with the SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) program, Bill volunteered to gather a group of retired members of the West Beaverton Neighborhood Association, and begin a Reading Partner program. Each week, Bill and his peers meet with their reading buddies, not only read, but to build a relationship that fosters a true love of reading.

Bill did not stop there. He wanted to not only have a positive affect on the reading skills and interests of the students; but to also provide support that could mitigate the affects of poverty. Bill applied for the City of Beaverton's Neighborhood Association Committee (NAC) grant to create the Pages as Pillars program to purchase new books for students in the school who may not have access to them at home.

During the first year of the program, Bill raised \$1,000 to purchase 176 books for 44 students. In the second year, he encouraged local businesses to join in the effort and was able to raise \$1,500 to purchase more than 400 books for 67 children. This year, Bill took the effort to a whole new level! During the summer's neighborhood garage sale, an annual event, he collected and sold items for the Pages to Pillars program. Together with the City's grant, a donation of \$600 from the local UPS Store and the proceeds from the garage sale, Bill raised \$2,366 to purchase books.

Bill's dedication to this cause has resulted in more than 700 books for nearly 200 children to read at home. His leadership, ideas, and fellowship give students at Chehalem an opportunity to practice their reading, vary their vocabulary and even have a library of their own.

Thank you, Bill!

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the School Board recognize Bill Wood for his contributions to the School District.