



**Superintendent of Schools**  
Phone 269-695-8401  
Fax 269-695-8450

401 West Chicago Street  
Buchanan, Michigan 49107

December 12, 2018

Mr. Brian Pruett, Assistant Principal  
Buchanan High School

Mr. Pruett:

You were nominated for Buchanan Community Schools' Staff Appreciation Program. The process to select a winner for the monthly staff appreciation award consists of:

1. Collection of nominee recommendations from parents, students, staff members, community members, and other BCS stakeholders.
2. All names of nominees are placed into a drawing; one name is blindly pulled from the envelope to be selected as the winner of the appreciation award.
3. The winner is then contacted and asked to attend the Board meeting in the month that the selection is made to be presented with a gift, and to be recognized by the Board.

Though you were not selected as the winner for this month of December, we would like to celebrate in acknowledgement by sharing the wonderful accolades that were entered for your nomination this month. Below is the question and response that was submitted.

**What do you appreciate about this person's efforts to make BCS a great place to learn and a great place to work? Please provide as much detail as you wish so we can show our appreciation to this outstanding Buck!**

*Mr. Pruett works diligently to ensure success at BHS. He has a knack for encouraging kids, keeping them on track, re-directing them, and also being stern with them when necessary. He has poured his heart and soul into our students and staff at BHS and I could not be more grateful for his endless commitment to the community of Buchanan. As a teacher in the high school, I feel completely supported and motivated by Mr. Pruett's efforts. He is reliable, always willing to listen and offer advice, he supports us, and has great communication with our staff and students. I am so thankful for Mr. Pruett... he makes being a teacher at BHS better every day. Sincerely, Jessica Elliott*

On behalf of the Board of Education and Administration of Buchanan Community Schools, we thank you for your service and encourage you to keep up the great level of achievement and service to our district.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Donahue, Ed.S.  
Superintendent of Schools



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Mrs. Cathy Tapia, Elementary Special Education Teacher  
Ottawa Elementary

Mrs. Tapia:

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*Cathy has dedicated herself to all of our special needs children. She has a pleasant attitude that is contagious. Cathy has been dedicated to Buchanan children for several years. She also works with children at the Buchanan Art Center.*

*-Linda Lunneen*

On behalf of the Board of Education and Administration of Buchanan Community Schools, we thank you for your service and encourage you to keep up the great level of achievement and service to our district.

Sincerely,

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Mr. Chad VanBeek, District Operations, Maintenance, & Custodial  
Buchanan Community Schools

Mr. VanBeek:

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*Chad always is looking out for others and making sure that our buildings are safe for all staff and students. He puts in a great deal of effort to ensure that everyone knows he's proud to be a Buchanan employee. He even works part time for our custodial company Team MJV and has many compliments from staff about the areas he cleans. They say that they can tell he really does care about the students and employees because he goes above and beyond what is expected of him whether he is working for the school or Team MJV he is a Buchanan Buck.*

*-Daryl Miller*

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Mr. David Griswold, Team MJV Custodial  
Buchanan High School

Mr. Griswold:

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*Dave has been a great help as a custodial staff here at BHS. He is friendly, positive, and energetic - all qualities that help make BHS a great place to work. He is passionate about cleaning and does the best he can to make BHS a place where students can come learn. Thanks for all you do, Dave.*

*-Byron Cribbley*

On behalf of the Board of Education and Administration of Buchanan Community Schools, we thank you for your service and encourage you to keep up the great level of achievement and service to our district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy J. Donahue". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'T' and 'D'.

Timothy J. Donahue, Ed.S.  
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Mr. Lonnie Hoover, Director of Athletics  
Buchanan Community Schools

Mr. Hoover:

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*Lonnie has done a tremendous job with scheduling of events and communicating to staff about times and locations to make sure people are current with all information. It really helps us in the Operations Department to make sure all setups are done correctly and in a timely fashion because notification was made well ahead of events.*

*-Daryl Miller*

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Mrs. Lisa Gregory, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Moccasin Elementary School

Mrs. Gregory:

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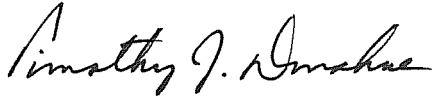
**What do you appreciate about this person's efforts to make BCS a great place to learn and a great place to work? Please provide as much detail as you wish so we can show our appreciation to this outstanding Buck!**

*Mrs. Gregory has gone above and beyond for my child that is in her 2nd grade class. Carter has had some trouble with focusing and getting completed assignments turned in. Mrs. Gregory has noticed this and come up with a fun solution for him to help encourage him to complete his assignments. (I'm sure she does this for all of her students, not just my child) She has a punch card system that whenever he completes a task/assignment he gets to get a punch in his card, whenever he gets a card filled he gets to turn this in for a "reward". He has gotten to eat lunch with Mrs. Gregory, sit in her desk for the day, etc. On a side note, Mrs. Gregory is a huge ND fan and Carter is a Michigan Fan, they have their little "my team is better than yours rivalry going on. Well that being said, Carter's last reward for his filled punch card was for Mrs. Gregory to wear MI apparel and she did it! She sent me a picture of them together. She has already made such an impact on Carter, he talks about her all the time, he LOVES to go to school (he cried the last 2 years) He's completing his assignments and is making great grades!! I cannot thank Mrs. Gregory enough for her love and compassion she has put into him to help motivate him in a fun/learning way. This is something that Carter will remember forever and I'm truly grateful that he is in Mrs. Gregory's class. Mrs. Gregory is a phenomenal addition to Buchanan Community Schools and she makes Buchanan Moccasin School a great place to learn!!!*

*-Mandi Schanick*

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Mrs. Paula Grove, Paraprofessional  
Moccasin Elementary School

Mrs. Grove:

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*Paula is always so sweet and caring with our students. She pays close attention to their needs and feelings. Paula is always very patient and loves to make our kiddos at Ottawa smile and feel comfortable every day! She is also a very good co-worker. She is helpful and kind. And we love that she shares her love for baking with us!*

*-Kristen Baker*

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