
RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

Tonight, the District recognizes the following individuals for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the Beaverton School District and the community. The following recognitions are examples of WE Expect Excellence and WE Collaborate, two of the four Pillars of Learning.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

WE Expect Excellence: IB Primary Years Programme

The Beaverton School District has two International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) Authorized schools – Bonny Slope and Ridgewood elementary schools. Cedar Park Middle School and the International School of Beaverton (ISB) embrace the Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Sunset High School, Southridge High School and ISB offer the Diploma Programme (DP). Beaverton is the first public school system in the state of Oregon to offer all three programs.

The IB PYP is a curricular framework that focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. It is defined by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored by using knowledge and skills derived from six subject areas (Language, Social Studies, Mathematics, Arts, Science and Physical, Social and Personal Education), with an emphasis on inquiry-based learning.

To further enhance the learning experience, the Primary Years Programme focuses not only on teaching concepts and skills, but also on developing actions and attitudes. This programme develops students who have positive attitudes toward people, toward their environment and toward learning. The PYP defines a set of characteristics for students that create a learner profile including: risk-takers, knowledgeable, thinkers, caring, principled, inquirers, communicators, open minded, reflective and balanced. Students are encouraged to display the following attitudes: appreciation, commitment, confidence, cooperation, creativity, curiosity, empathy, enthusiasm, independence, integrity, respect and tolerance.

The PYP in the Beaverton School District aligns directly with the Strategic Plan adopted by the School Board and exemplifies the WE Expect Excellence Pillar of Learning.

WE Collaborate: McKinley Elementary School Beyond the School Walls – Big Brothers Big Sisters Program

McKinley Elementary School has implemented the Beyond School Walls™ Program with Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest and in partnership with Wells Fargo Bank and Leupold & Stevens. The Big Brothers and Big Sisters in the Beyond School Walls™ mentoring program help to expand students' experiences by spending one-on-one time with them during the school day.

At McKinley, ten 3rd grade students have been matched with employees of Leupold & Stevens and 10 4th grade students are partnered with employees of Wells Fargo Bank. The students meet one to two times a month with their mentors at their place of business. "The student participants have been very excited to participate and the adult mentors have been very well matched with their "little brothers and sisters" by the Beyond School Walls Program staff," says McKinley Counselor, Forrest Rosser.

The program is just beginning at McKinley and students and mentors are getting to know each other. The students visit their mentors for lunch; introduce their mentors to other students and complete craft projects. Third grade students have been given Leupold & Stevens security badges and an introduction to the security system. In the coming months, students will tour both businesses and mentors will visit the students at school. Mentors are encouraged to check in with their student's teachers and counselors regarding behavior and academic progress.

Preliminary research indicates that student's engaged in a regular positive mentor relationship often develop:

- Enhanced self-confidence
- Improved relational/social skills
- Improved school attendance

McKinley Elementary School hopes the partnerships will evolve into continuing long-term mentor relationships for both students and the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend that the School Board recognize Bonny Slope, Ridgewood, and McKinley elementary schools, Leupold & Stevens and Wells Fargo for their contributions to students' success.