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Dr. Weikle and the Unit 5 Board of Education,

It is my pleasure to share good news from Evans Jr. High School. Our school's chess team has enjoyed another year of tremendous success! Under the direction of our coach, Mr. Alec Kepuraitis, our team won many tournaments throughout the season, culminating in two state championships and one state-runnerup finish at the 2026 IESA State Championships.

On Friday, February 27th, and Saturday, February 28th, the 6th and 7th Grade teams competed and won the IESA State Chess Tournament Championship! The Evans 8th-grade team also did very well and finished in 2nd place! The team had several individuals who achieved medals this year:

8th Grade: Gold- Sandeep Chandru, Bronze- Dhruv Kurada

7th Grade: Gold- Shinidhin Senthikumar, Silver- Akshaj Jayakumar, Bronze- Tej Shah, Chandra Padigala, Shrihan Ayyalusamy, Neal Sheth, and Daksha Challa

6th Grade: Silver- Vishnu Vijay, Bronze- Abhinav Chander, Saketh Viswandha

We are so proud of how these students have represented Eagle Nation at the state competition, truly showing others how to “Be the Good.”

Thank you for allowing me to share this accomplishment with you tonight, and Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

Kimberly Martin-Boyd

Evans Jr. High School Principal