



Buckeye North's 'Paws for a Cause' Helps Hounds' Haven

Buckeye North Elementary School helped out some furry friends by raising more than \$400 for Hound's Haven Inc.

The school provided a sweet incentive for the annual "Paws for a Cause" fundraiser to benefit the private, non-profit organization in Smithfield. While past events included collecting food and other items, kids had a chance to purchase pawprint-shaped cookies provided by the Yorkville Bakery for \$1 each and 60 percent of the proceeds went to the animal group.

Chuck Eddy, music teacher and member of the school's Hounds' Haven Committee, said the children purchased a total of 710 cookies and raised \$433 through sales and donations.

Proceeds will help the organization, which relies upon donations, grants and volunteers

to aid homeless and abused animals in the Ohio Valley.

Eddy said the figures exceeded his expectations and the cookie sale will likely occur again in the future.

"[The children] were all very excited to donate to Hounds' Haven, and they loved the cookies. We are planning to do something similar next year," he said. "We contacted

Hounds' Haven and they were thankful for the project."

The school presented Hounds' Haven officials with a check and certificate during an assembly on March 23.

Eddy added that campaigns for food and other items became costly, while the cookie sale was a more feasible way for students to help Hounds' Haven.

In addition to getting a sweet treat, kids also had their name on a paper pawprint and hung in the school halls.

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South's Sales Aid Speakers

Buckeye South Elementary School has a sweet moneymaker under way to help obtain new speakers for the building.

The school is selling Anthony-Thomas candy bars for \$1 each and using proceeds to help raise \$2,500 for equipment to benefit the site. Principal Cindy Schooler said the speakers would be added in the hall, cafeteria and gym for easier communication.

Schooler had submitted a competitive grant through Lowe's Home Improvement to help defray costs for the speakers, but officials learned in late January that it was not funded. They then sought to raise the money themselves and are considering other fundraisers to reach the monetary goal.

"The amount is \$2,500 according to our last estimate. If we sell the candy bars, we should have about \$1,800," she said, adding that the sweets will be sold until the inventory has been depleted. "We would love to have the speakers installed over the summer so we can start the new year with the new system."

Letters were sent home to parents, who could also purchase bags of assorted candy bars for \$30 each for the students to sell. Schooler added that donations are also being accepted at the school to assist with the upgrade.

"They can make monetary donations to the project by sending it in an envelope marked 'Speaker Project,'" she commented. "Any amount would be appreciated."

Contributions may be sent to Buckeye South Elementary School, 100 Walden Ave., Tiltonsville, Ohio, 43963. For more information, contact the school at (740) 859-2800.

Fit Club Benefits Playground


Parents and students who want to stay healthy have an opportunity to join the Fit Club at West Elementary School.

Fit Club is a weekly exercise group which was started by the West Elementary Wellness Committee and PTO as a fundraiser for the school's playground renovation. About \$8,000 has been raised so far through various benefits and some new equipment should be installed this summer. The Fit Club was formally launched in the fall and organizers are spreading the word. It is held in the school gym at 5:30 p.m. while adults pay a \$5 donation and kids participate for free.

Vanessa Toto, Fit Club chairperson for the PTO, said it was an alternative way to make money while also keeping people active.

Toto added that organizers also noticed a gap in available exercise programs in the area and a lack of nearby gyms, while the Fit Club offered an option. Parents can also get fit doing DVD's of Pilates, yoga and more at their own pace while children can be active in the gym.

Dates are still being scheduled for April, but anyone seeking information may contact Toto, Sellers or Amy Boroski through Facebook Messenger, the Buckeye Local West Elementary PTO Facebook page, or phone or text Toto at (412) 417-2537.



Did You Know?

Easter Break is scheduled from April 13-17.

McFadden Memorial Scholarship Established

A new scholarship has been established in the name of a longtime educator who strived for equality in learning.

The Buckeye Local Board of Education approved the formation of the Brad W. McFadden Memorial Scholarship, named for a district alumnus and one-time teacher who passed away Nov. 29 at the age of 39. McFadden, who most recently served as regional director of State Support Team 12 (SST-12), was remembered for his interest in improving the lives of youth.

Angela Hicks, district director of federal programs and a longtime friend of McFadden's, said the scholarship was the culmination of family and friends' wishes to see McFadden's legacy carried on within the school system.

"He had a true passion for education, especially special education," Hicks said. "He dedicated his whole life to that, so we wanted to start a scholarship for students going into education with a preference in special education...to be able to impact children through adulthood."

McFadden, a 1995 graduate of Buckeye Local High School, obtained a bachelor's degree in early childhood education at Ohio University in 1998 and two master's

degrees in special education and education administration from Ohio University and Franciscan University, respectively. His career began at East Liverpool City Schools where he served as an intervention specialist from 1999-2006, and then he served as director of special education for Buckeye Online School for Success from 2005-08. McFadden went on to become a regional representative with SST-12 before serving as its director. He held that position from 2013 until his untimely death this past fall.

But his ties to his alma mater never wavered, and he was elected to and served on the school board from 2011-15.

District officials said his commitment to education for everyone, especially those with disabilities, is how he is best remembered and is also reflected in the scholarship itself.

"Brad did believe in equitable education



Brad W. McFadden

and discriminated against no one, so for that reason we wanted to carry on his legacy through the scholarship fund," Hicks added.

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded each year beginning this May to one graduating senior who plans to continue his or her studies and major in education with preference in the field of special education. To be eligible, the candidate must have a high school GPA of at least 2.8, complete at least one quarter or semester at an accredited college or university with at least a 3.0 GPA based on a 4.0 scale, and submit an essay of 400 words or more on why he or she is entering the field of education. Applications must be submitted to the BLHS guidance counselor on or before April 15 of the applicant's senior year.

Candidates' application materials will then be reviewed by a group of McFadden's family and friends with the recipient notified at the school's Senior Award ceremony.

Contributions are being accepted and may be sent to the Buckeye Local School District, c/o Brad W. McFadden Memorial Scholarship Fund, 6899 State Route 150, Dillonvale, Ohio, 43917.

BLHS Marching Band Seeking to Replace Outdated Uniforms

The Buckeye Local High School Marching Band is looking to update its uniforms and has fundraisers under way to help outfit its members.

Band Director Bill Stephens said the current attire is 15 years old and the group has held fundraisers with more on the horizon to update the wardrobe. Among the moneymakers have been concession stands at events, pepperoni roll sales, chicken dinners, coupon nights at area restaurants and many financial contributions from the community. Stephens said funds have been collected for the past five or six years and the goal is to have uniforms for all 115 band members.

"The new uniforms have a new, sleeker look with our new 'BL' logo and chrome helmets to replace the old shako hats," he

explained. "We have already earned enough to order the trousers and coats and are currently raising money for the helmets and hopefully a new drumline, as well."

The overall cost is about \$36,000 and \$24,000 has been raised so far. Hopes are to order the uniforms by the end of April so they would be available for the 2017-18 high school football season.

"I certainly appreciate all the support and generosity we have experienced from so many folks in our district. The Panther Band is proud of Buckeye Local and so thankful for all of our faithful supporters."

Anyone wishing to donate may send checks in care of the Buckeye Local Band Boosters to 10692 State Highway 150, Rayland, Ohio 43938.

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Biannual Blood Drive on April 11

The Buckeye Local High School Student Council is counting on students and community residents to pitch in and help save lives during an upcoming blood drive.

Advisor Mary Ellen Bolock said the organization was joining forces with the American Red Cross for the biannual collection on April 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the small gym. Student council members will head the stations while the Red Cross will oversee the actual collection.

"Donors can sign up online, at school, or tell a student council member," Bolock said, adding that roughly 50 units were collected at another event on Nov. 4.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 (1-800-RED-CROSS) or visit redcrossblood.org and enter Buckeye.