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First Grade Students Win Ugly Sweater Contest

DECEMBER 16TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

First Grade Students Win Ugly Sweater Contest

Dexter, Missouri - Southwest Elementary held an UGLY SWEATER contest prior to Dexter Public Schools dismissing for the holidays.

Three categories of Most Festive, Most Creative and Ugliest Sweater were chosen for each grade.

First grade student winners are Gavin Drake for Ugliest Sweater, Sophia Wunderlich for Most Festive Sweater, and Lily Graviett for Most Creative Sweater.

Shown in the photo are from left to right: Gavin Drake, Sophia Wunderlich, and Lily Graviett.

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Kindergarten Students Win Ugly Sweater Contest

DECEMBER 16TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Kindergarten Students Win Ugly Sweater Contest

Dexter, Missouri - Southwest Elementary held an UGLY SWEATER contest prior to Dexter Public Schools dismissing for the holidays.

Three categories of Most Festive, Most Creative and Ugliest Sweater were chosen for each grade.

Kindergarten winners are: Anthony Fina Lara for Most Festive Sweater, Kennedy Essner for Most Creative Sweater and Zane Ruppell for Ugliest Sweater.

Shown in the photo from left to right: Anthony Fina Lara, Kennedy Essner and Zane Ruppell.

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PBHS Beta Club Holds Christmas Gift Drive

DECEMBER 15TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

PBHS Beta Club Holds Christmas Gift Drive

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - The Poplar Bluff High School Beta Club recently made its annual donation to the Whole Kids Outreach and the Ripley-Butler County Foster Care Christmas Party.

The WKO operates the Share-A-Toy Christmas Store in Ellington, providing presents for about 1,000 area children each year. The Foster Care Christmas Party ensures teenagers ages 14-18 experience a gift exchange.

Shown in the photo from left to right: Vice president Adeesh Mishra, secretary Rachel Henson, members Jordan Cox and Makayla Whitehead, and president Humza Siddiqui of the PBHS Beta Club donate stocking stuffers and wrapping paper to a WKO representative on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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Southwest Elementary Students Earn Positive Office Referral Certificates

DECEMBER 13TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Southwest Elementary Students Earn Positive Office Referral Certificates

Dexter, Missouri - Southwest Elementary honors Chase Gill, Quincey McLaughlin, Will Guethle, Caydee Johnson, Addie Meador, and Addison Calvert with the Positive Office Referral certificate.

This award is presented to students who consistently show the 3R's RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, and READY TO LEARN at Southwest Elementary in Dexter.

Chase Gill and Quincey McLaughlin are 2nd grade students in the classroom of Mrs. Justice.

Will Guethle is also a 2nd grade student in the classroom of Mrs. Massey.

Caydee Johnson and Addison Calvert are 1st grade students in the classroom of Mrs. Earnheart.

Addie Meador is a kindergarten student in the classroom of Mrs. Christian.

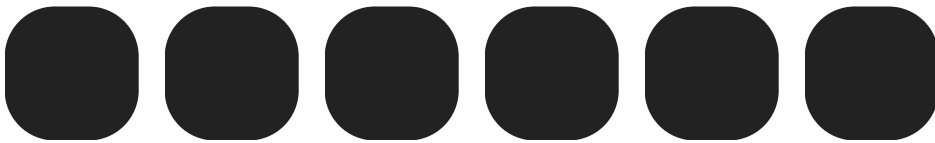
Shown in the photo front row from left to right: Chase Gill, Quincey McLaughlin, and Will Guethle.

Back row from left to right: Caydee Johnson, Addie Meador, and Addison Calvert.

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First Doctoral Program Offered in Poplar Bluff

DECEMBER 13TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[First Doctoral Program Offered in Poplar Bluff](#)

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Poplar Bluff Schools in partnership with Lindenwood University—is encouraging more local educators to earn the highest graduate degree attainable by bringing the first doctoral program to the community.

In addition to Poplar Bluff R-I educators, the initial cohort of students admitted includes teachers and administrators from Three Rivers College, Leopold and Cooter. While the two-year program is designed to serve a one-time need, the hope is for the collaboration to have long-term implications, according to officials.

“Any time people study their craft, they get better,” stated Poplar Bluff Middle School Principal Dr. Brad Owings, “and we want more for our district and for our kids so Poplar Bluff will become an even better place to live.”

Based in the Metro East, Lindenwood has begun its second cohort in West Plains, where Owings previously served, and the program has been the catalyst for numerous doctorates in that region in recent years. When Owings approached R-I Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Dr. Amy Jackson earlier this year with the notion of gauging interest here, she was immediately receptive.

“This was something I felt would be a wonderful opportunity for our staff as well as other schools throughout the entire area,” Jackson said. “The goal is to be able to continue this opportunity for years so teachers and our administration can grow and learn.”

Enrolled in the program from the R-I district are O’Neal IEP facilitator Susan Schalk, Middle School teacher Shelly Ridens and interventionist Brandy Tripp, and High School math teacher Brandi Compass and assistant principal Sheldon Tyler. The tracks include educational administration and instructional leadership, along with a higher education option.

The first set of courses, administrative decision making and 21st century issues in education, will be taught by Jackson and Owings respectively beginning in January at the R-I Administrative Building on North Westwood Boulevard.

“The beauty of the program is the people teaching are practitioners themselves,” noted Dr. Terry Reid, Lindenwood director of graduate education. “There’s no program convenient at all to Poplar Bluff. It’s a great location because it’s a regional hub for much of Southeast Missouri.”

For more information about the doctoral program, email Reid at treid@lindenwood.edu.

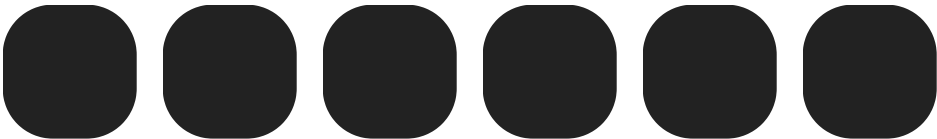
Shown in the photo: O’Neal Elementary Principal Dr. Amy Dill (right) last month joined R-I administrative colleagues Dr. Amy Jackson and Dr. Brad Owings in earning her doctorate in educational leadership.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District.

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