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# Richland Yearbook Staff Wins National Honors

DECEMBER 20TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Richland Yearbook Staff Wins National Honors

Essex, MO - The Journalism Education Association (JEA) released the results from its fall national journalism contest last week and the Richland R-1 School yearbook students took home four superiors, two excellents, and two honorable mentions.

In the photography portion, seven total superiors were presented in the nation and four of them went to Richland students, including in the Portfolio division, to which The Rebel Editor-in-Chief Dacie Ritch took home the top prize of the photography contest, making her the highest rated high school photographer in the nation.

Winners in the contest included, from left: Alex Porter, Excellent in General News Photography; Cassie Bess, Superior in Feature Photography; Katelyn Black, Honorable Mention in Sports Feature Photography; Dacie Ritch, Superior in Portfolio Photography; MaKayla Finch, Honorable Mention in Themed Photography; Jalen Rodgers, Superior in Sports Action Photography; Logan Holman, Excellent in Portrait Photography; and Joe Wyman, Superior in First Year Photography.

Photo courtesy of Kyle Carter

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## 6th Grade Students at T.S. Hill Middle School Raise \$10,000 for Wreaths Across America

DECEMBER 17TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

6th Grade Students at T.S. Hill Middle School Raise \$10,000 for Wreaths Across America

Dexter, MO - T.S. Hill Middle School 6th grade students raised over \$10,000 for Wreaths Across America. That's a total of 1,013 wreaths!

Terry Bryeans, Social Studies Teacher, said, "The classes competed against each other with the class that raised the most money would receive a pizza party. They did well over expectations!"

Wreaths were sold online and in person and some students went door-to-door selling the wreaths. Each wreath will be placed on a veteran's grave at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield on Saturday, December 18th at 11:00 .m.

Bryeans said that the students will be bused to the event and will help place the wreath at each grave.

The winning class was the 6th hour social studies class raising \$2,150. The competition was tight as the 2nd place class raised \$2,000

**Please join them for the Wreaths Across America ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield.**

**Pictured above is the winning 6th grade social studies class.**

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# Dexter School Board Meeting Minutes - December 14, 2021

DECEMBER 17TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter School Board Meeting Minutes - December 14, 2021

Dexter, MO - The Dexter School Board met in a regularly scheduled meeting on December 14, 2021. Below are the meeting minutes submitted by Amy James, Superintendent of Dexter Public Schools.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge: The Board President announced the meeting is to begin, ascertains the attendance status of all board members, with Mr. Jon Thompson being absent. The Board President leads in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda was approved.

Public Comments: Mr. Travis Gibson was a registered guest who addressed the board of education.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

A. The board approved a transfer from Fund 001 to Fund 002 to eliminate any negative balance.

B. The board approved budget amendments for the month of December.

C. The board approved the diesel fuel bid for 2022. Southern FS was the approved bid at \$2.59/gallon.

D. The board approved the 2022 MUSIC renewal assessment and optional umbrella coverage.

E. The board approved the purchase of 3 new buses and 2 leased buses for the 22-23 school year.

Discussion Items: The following items were discussed with the board:

A. Building board reports were shared for Southwest Elementary, Central Elementary, T.S. Hill Middle School, and Dexter High School.

B. The monthly nursing report was shared with the board.

C. The superintendent's report was shared with the board and is stated below:

Current Enrollment: 2065

District ADA: 95.59%-ytd.

## COVID:

Since school began our numbers of students/staff placed in quarantine have remained consistent. The lowest number we've had quarantined has been 8 and the highest number has been 65. The daily average has been 31. Schools are consistently implementing our mitigating measures and adhering to guidance from the Stoddard County Health Department/DHSS/and CDC. The largest number of students who have tested positive for Covid has come from the high school. The largest number of positive students has been 15 on one day. As of Wednesday, our numbers were as follows:

Students quarantined-9

Students positive for Covid-1

Staff quarantined-0

Staff positive for Covid-0

Percentage impacted by Covid: Less than 1%

November Financial Payments:

Basic Formula:

The payment this month was based on the current data for FY 21-22, 20-21, and 19-20 WADA. November's payment was: \$551,898.85

Classroom Trust Fund:

Payment was calculated using the higher of FY 2020-21 or FY 2019-20 ADA. Our payment was: \$57,824.76

Proposition C:

Payment was calculated using the higher of FY 2020-21 or FY 2019-20 ADA. Our November payment was: \$189,050.90

Transportation:

The November payment was based on 2020-2021 transportation data and the fiscal year 20-21 transportation appropriation. The payment was \$11,184.00

We were approved for the \$79,000 retention grant and the \$10,000 Grow Your Own recruitment grant.

## Updates:

Calendar Committee: The calendar committee has been meeting and is working on calendars to present for board approval at the January board meeting.

Christmas Break: December 20th-January 3rd.

DESE's Regional Teacher of the Year award opened for nominations on December 1st.

The Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for the Educator of the Year award. The annual awards banquet is scheduled for Friday, March 4th.

## Recognition:

I'd like to highlight and recognize our paraprofessionals this month. We currently have 34 paraprofessionals across the campus. These individuals support and assist teachers and students not only in the classroom setting, but in all areas of the school. Their jobs are difficult and at times they are underappreciated for their roles. I thank each one for their valuable service and dedication to the school.

D. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2022.

## In Closed Session:

The board approved the hiring of the following substitute teachers for the 21-22 school year:

Jennifer Madigan-Bus Driver

Lori Anderson

Ahtziri Bittaye

Brooke Gott

Addyson Green

Danielle Landers

Delaney Lemmon

Shawn Markin

Crystal Miller

Ashley Wheeler

2. The board approved hiring of the following individuals for the 21-22 school year pending favorable background checks and appropriate certification:

Kathryn Ashley-Paraprofessional at Central.

James Sneed - HS Head Baseball Coach

Delaney Simmons-Paraprofessional at Southwest.

3. The board approved the following resignations/retirements for the 2021-2022 school year:

Stacy Roe-Goode-Retirement at the conclusion of the 21-22 school year.

Keri Goodman-Resigning as the Scholar Bowl Coach at the conclusion of the 21-22 school year.

James DeBerry - Resigning as the HS Head Cross Country Coach at the conclusion of the 21-22 school year.

Lloyd Hyten-Resigning as the MS Head BB Coach at the conclusion of the 21-22 school year.

Crystal Miller -Resigning as a special services paraprofessional effective immediately.

Brooke Gott - Resigning as a special services paraprofessional effective immediately.

Adalina Gensler - Resigning as a special services paraprofessional effective immediately.

Emily Garner-Resigning as a bus driver effective immediately.

4 . The following items were discussed with the board:

Legal update.

School Based Therapist-Partnership with Bootheel Counseling.

Covid changes.

Boys & Girls Club scheduled visit.

Student discipline issue.

Superintendent evaluation tool

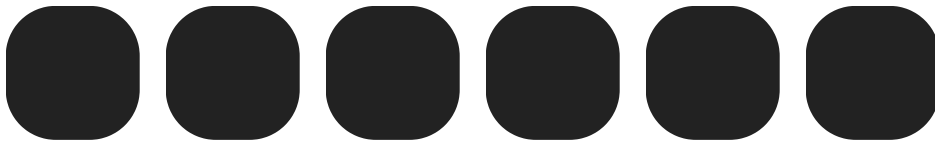
Items at the Conclusion of Executive Session

A. None at this time.

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## Bernie R-XIII School District Board of Education Proposed Agenda for December 20th

DECEMBER 17TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie R-XIII School District Board of Education Proposed Agenda for December 20th



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## Southwest Elementary 1st Grade Students Earn Positive Office Referral Awards

DECEMBER 13TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Southwest Elementary 1st Grade Students Earn Positive Office Referral Awards

Dexter, Missouri - Southwest Elementary honored 1st Grade students with Positive Office Referral certificates.

This award was presented to students who consistently showed the 3R's RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, and READY TO LEARN.

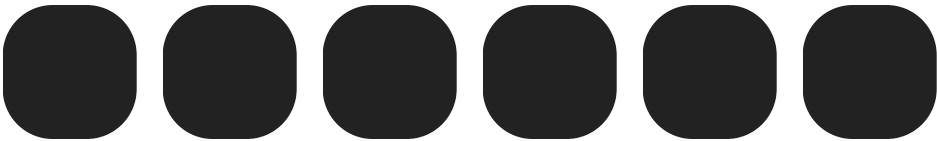
Each student received a certificate and a FREE Taco from Taco Bell.

From left to right Ryder Ackman, Donna Reazin, Korbin Caldwell, Ariella Rains, Jack Mayer, Cecily Fowler, and Hadlea Dorton.

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