

Local Schools



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Dexter Elks Students of the Month at Bell City

SEPTEMBER 23RD 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Elks Students of the Month at Bell City

Bell City, MO - Kennett Rampley and Kaelyn Yarbrough were chosen as Dexter Elks Students of the Month representing Bell City High School.

Kennett and Kaelyn will go on to compete with other students of the month throughout Stoddard County for the Dexter Elks Student of the Year later in May of 2023.

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Poplar Bluff Rotary Club Updates District's CPR Manikins

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Poplar Bluff Rotary Club Updates District's CPR Manikins

The R-I Health Department was able to replace two sets of adult and infant manikins, plus an additional standalone adult, for purposes of teaching CPR, through a \$2,000 grant from the Rotary Club of Poplar Bluff.

Poplar Bluff maintenance administrative assistant Dawn Hicks, the current Rotary Club president, said she reached out to nursing staff earlier this year to see if the funds would be of benefit. The health awareness grant program features a 50/50 match between the community-based organization and Rotary International.

In addition to updating its training manikins, manufactured by PRESTAN, the Health Department acquired 150 face-shield lung bags. Health Director Bailey Hester, who is certified through the National CPR Association, reported that three different training opportunities were offered over the summer for district staff, followed by the bus garage and Poplar Bluff Technical Career Center culinary arts students.

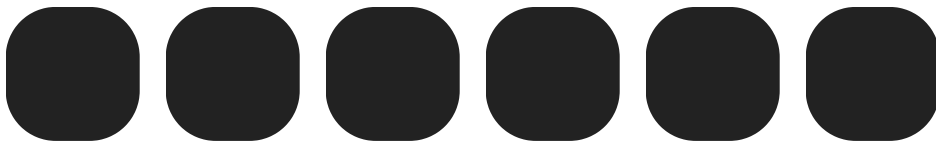
Pictured: R-I administrative assistant Dawn Hicks (left), also the Rotary Club president, presents Poplar Bluff Health Director Bailey Hester with new CPR/AED training manikins.

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

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Kindergarten Center Latest to Win Generous Blaich Donation

SEPTEMBER 23RD 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Kindergarten Center Latest to Win Generous Blaich Donation

Blaich Family Dentistry has donated \$1,000 to a campus at Poplar Bluff R-I as part of the office's back-to-school giveaway for the third consecutive year.

The Poplar Bluff Kindergarten Center was one or two chosen among 31 area schools entered in the annual contest, Dr. Eric Blaich announced via Facebook last month. Kindergarten teacher Kelen Deffendall made the nomination while home on maternity leave.

"I think it is incredibly generous for Dr. Blaich to donate to area schools each year," Deffendall said. "It gives those schools a chance to do things that they may not have been able to without it!"

The Kindergarten Center plans to utilize the funds to subsidize celebration activities under the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program, according to school counselor Rebekah Hager.

Last year, Eugene Field was a \$1,000 winner and in 2020, Junior High won \$1,500, a figure that included an additional matching pledge. This time Blaich also gave away five \$100 gift cards to individuals for school shopping.

Blaich founded his solo dental practice at 821 W. Pine Street in 2019.

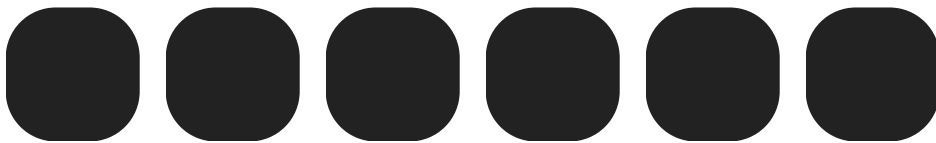
Pictured: Dr. Eric Blaich presents kindergartner Onesti Johnson and Kindergarten Center counselor Rebekah Hager with an oversized check on Wednesday, Sept. 7.

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

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Southwest Elementary Students Earn Positive Office Referral Awards

SEPTEMBER 23RD 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Southwest Elementary Students Earn Positive Office Referral Awards](#)

Dexter, Missouri - Southwest Elementary in Dexter honored First 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.

Pictured are Zayden Jones and Penelope Hutchcraft

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Picture are Brynna Thrower and Shyla Shawn

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