



## *Hats Off to Our 2017 Friends of Education!*

### *USD 497's American Education Week Celebration of School Volunteerism*

#### ***Broken Arrow Elementary – Amy Sanchez***

***Presenter: Brian McCaffrey***

Always a positive contributor to our school, Amy has built important relationships among parents and staff as PTA President. We can always depend on Amy to generously deliver meals at conference time or support us through many other volunteer opportunities.

#### ***Deerfield Elementary – Melissa Anderson***

***Presenters: Joni Appleman & Anne Bailey***

Ten years and 2 ½ more to go! That's how long Melissa has been a MORE-than-dedicated parent, volunteer, supporter, organizer, leader and cheerleader at Deerfield. She never turns us down for anything we need. She will always find a way to make it happen!

#### ***Liberty Memorial Central Middle School – Megan Richardson***

***Presenter: Jeff Harkin***

Megan served for several years on our Ci3T Leadership Team. Her insight and understanding of schools helped guide the development of our school's plan. She also has served on our Parent Involvement Group and as a generous business partner.

#### ***Lawrence High School – Mike & Sonja Hart***

***Presenters: Matt Brungardt & Bill DeWitt***

Both Lawrence natives and LHS graduates, Mike and Sonja have attended all but a few LHS football games – home and away, since 1983! The Harts also have attended numerous LHS volleyball, soccer and basketball games and provided generous financial support. They are tremendously supportive of the Chesty Lion community.

#### ***Prairie Park Elementary – Harold & Marilyn Agnew***

***Presenter: David Williams***

Even after their grandchildren moved out of state in 2014, the Agnews have continued to be great supporters of our school. Almost monthly they stop by with school supplies, food for our Food Share Program and other items they know families need. Neighbors like Harold and Marilyn make the Prairie Park community great!

#### ***Southwest Middle School – Alyssa Nicole Rabiola***

***Presenter: Kristen Ryan***

A dedicated volunteer for four years, Alyssa assists at Bulldog Countdown, school dances and with small groups of students in the sixth-grade pod. She makes a positive impact at Southwest with her friendly personality and willingness to help wherever needed.

#### ***Kennedy Elementary – Mark Gordy, Britney Woody & Tasman Grout***

***Presenters: Chalita Middleton & Stacie Jackson***

Big Brothers Big Sisters has provided positive role models for our students for many years. Last year they brought their partnership with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office to Kennedy. It has been valuable to our student matches and the school environment.

#### ***South Middle School – Terry Jacobsen***

***Presenter: Keith Jones***

Much more than a LEAP partner, Terry serves on the Site Council, helped implement Watch D.O.G.S. and assisted with the process for discussing the school name change proposal. He supports our school culture and donated T-shirts for all students. A positive parent, business partner and friend, he cares about South and shows it by the consistent example he sets for staff and students.

#### ***Free State High School – Marybeth Mermis & Lisa Green***

***Presenter: Myron Graber***

Marybeth and Lisa have partnered with the Work Experience Program for two years, offering students internships to enhance their work and social skills and productivity. Students learn to prep fresh fruit and vegetables and complete tasks in sequential order using attention to detail. The opportunities provided by t.Loft help our students learn essential life skills.

#### ***West Middle School – Laura Marsh***

***Presenter: Brad Kempf***

An outstanding individual who supports the school garden through her work at The Merc, Laura provides our students with opportunities to discover the garden and try new, healthy foods grown at school. Students and staff are always excited to see Laura and The Merc family at the sampling table in the hallway before lunch.

#### ***New York Elementary – Shannon Berquist***

***Presenters: Nancy DeGarmo & Joanna Bonee***

Shannon made a dream a reality! After seeing children come to annual Scholastic Book Fairs only to be disappointed that they couldn't afford a book they wanted, she single-handedly made the dream of an affordable book fair a reality for New York school.



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### ***Schwegler Elementary – Erika Dvorske***

***Presenters: Jared Comfort, Amy Shellhorn, Sabrina Long & Jeff Morrison***

A devoted volunteer for many years, Erika has served as Site Council chair and vice-chair and volunteered in classrooms, with PTA and helped us to secure an off-site venue for our first Partnerships for Academically Successful Students (PASS) meeting.

### ***Sunflower Elementary – Nancy Lett***

***Presenters: Howard Diacon & Connie Yother***

A Sunflower mom since 2009, Nancy has organized room parties, accompanied field trips, maintained order in the lunchroom and donated prizes for the BEST BUCKS program. She is now planning fifth-grade recognition. Nancy “saves the day” whenever needed.

### ***Hillcrest Elementary – Cindy Berrie***

***Presenter: Tammy Becker***

An integral part of PTO as secretary and an at-large member of our executive board, Cindy committed several years ago to reviving extended science experiences for students. Through her dedication and collaboration with KU, Science Night has become a highlight!

### ***Cordley Elementary – Emily Mulligan***

***Presenter: Scott Cinnamon***

Emily has volunteered in almost every way possible for eight years – from PTA to office support and helping in classrooms. She also served on the Design and Construction Committee whose contributions will be enjoyed by many for years to come.

### ***USD 497 – Colby Wilson & Monica Dittmer, Boys and Girls Club***

***Presenters: Anna Stubblefield & Kevin Harrell***

Not only does the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence extend and reinforce student learning after school, the Club partners with us to provide equity training for staff. The new Teen Center collaboration promises to greatly expand opportunities for youth.

### ***Pinckney Elementary – Richard Andrade & Aimee Poirier***

***Presenters: Kristi Hill & Julia Andrade***

Richard and Aimee have served as PTO president and secretary for two years. Their commitment to our school includes endless hours of volunteering, leading PTO meetings and organizing monthly free family events and fundraisers.

### ***Langston Hughes Elementary – Diane Vigna***

***Presenter: Jackie Mickel***

Diane leads our fundraising efforts, Eat-n-Earn activities, classroom parties, and for the last two years, the school carnival. She goes above and beyond to help our school, and we appreciate her efforts and hard work.

### ***Sunset Hill Elementary – Valeita Williams***

***Presenter: Jeremy Philipp***

Valeita’s passion for literacy is contagious! She works tirelessly with our students to ensure that each child has a solid foundation in reading so their years at Sunset Hill are a success!

### ***Quail Run Elementary – Jen Hutton***

***Presenter: Philip Thies***

Jen and her husband, Kyle, have devoted countless hours to cleaning up the school grounds by cutting branches, spreading mulch and taking care of the gardens. They also are essential team members in gathering volunteers for our annual Fun Run.

### ***Woodlawn Elementary – Sherri, Makenzie & Cameron Vaughn & Doni Mooberry-Slough & Hayden Slough***

***Presenters: Jeanne Fridell, Michelle Barnes & Julia Beckstrand***

Sherri, Doni and their children began a grassroots effort in 2013 to provide new school clothes for children who might not otherwise have them. Planning to pilot the project at Woodlawn, they were actually able to launch “For Kids, By Kids” with three schools. The endeavor has now grown to include eight schools, providing more than 1,000 children with new school clothes.



*Sincere thanks to all school volunteers, our 2017 Friends of Education, school presenters, student emcees Piper Rogers and Elliot Whisenant (FSHS) and Samantha Turner and Joseph Leuschen (LHS), volunteers Charlotte Anderson, Emily Beecham, Julie Boyle, Annette Dabney, Susan DeSandre, Laurie Folsom, Janice Fullerton, Terri Johnson, Shannon Kimball, Coleen Martin, Anna Stubblefield and Joyce Tallman; the Lawrence Education Association, and USD 497 Print Shop and Technology Services staff.*