

Great Game of Huddle Notes

August 14, 2018

Jill Randolph opened today's meeting by introducing Amanda Desa, School Community Liaison, who oversees the Partners in Education (PIE) volunteer services with Weaver Elementary School.

PIE: Organizations, businesses, faith-based agencies, and nonprofits work to respond to the needs of under-resourced students, providing for unmet needs of food, transportation, mental and physical health, consistent shelter, and access to early childhood education.

Weaver Elementary School is a Title I School, meaning that 93% of the students receive free/reduced lunch. They work with community partners, who both mentor and assist with supporting students in both behavior and attendance incentives.

Why Mentor: To increase the number of positive relationships and interactions between our students/parents and our local community partners in order to increase student achievement at Weaver Elementary. "We have to meet the social and emotional side of our students before we can teach them skills needed...relationships matter."

Amanda showed a brief video that Weaver Teacher David Greer put together of students thanking their mentors. <https://www.wevideo.com/view/1090031505>

Mentoring Opportunities:

- **Positive Behavior Luncheon:** Students who have 80% positive behavior get to have lunch in the cafeteria and make a craft. Mentors assist and supervise with the craft. This is a one-time per month event that meets from 10:50-12:30pm (or whatever your availability allows).
- **Lunch Buddy:** Volunteers are able to eat lunch with a student on a weekly basis and become a positive role model for these students.
- **Reading and/or Math Buddy:** Volunteers meet with their assigned student to assist in tutoring them in reading and/or math. This commitment can be up to one time per week, if your schedule allows, and normally run between 20-30 minutes each time.
- **Mentors:** These usually consist of small groups of students (4-6), who have the opportunity to meet with the students either once a week, twice a month, or once a month, whatever your schedule allows. The mentors help on a hobby based project, play with them at recess and/or focus on a specific topic to discuss as a group.
- **School Store:** Volunteers are able to either personally give of their own time to assist in the school store by organizing donated items and/or taking the time to help the students "shop" with the "Care Cash" they have earned throughout the week for positive behavior.

Weaver Elementary School Store Drive: Starting today, there will be drop-off locations across the County campus for lightly used and/or new donated items. A flyer is attached for those drop-off locations, as well as the contact employee at each respective office in case there are any questions. Donated items may include monetary donations, which will be given to the Connecting Grounds Church, who has taken the School Store on as a church project. The plan is for donations to be taken through September 24; however, Weaver School will accept donations throughout the school year.

"All it takes is 1 positive adult to have an impact on a child's future. Will you be that 1 adult for our #WeaverWildcat Students?"

If interested, please do not hesitate to contact Amanda Desa, Weaver School Community Liaison 417-523-1211 abdesa@spsmail.org



*Giving is not just about making a donation,
it's about making a difference!*

WEAVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STORE DRIVE

**GAMES, TOYS, SPORTS EQUIPMENT, ARTS &
CRAFTS, SHOES, HYGIENE ITEMS, SCHOOL
SUPPLIES, INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED SNACKS,
OR GENTLY USED/LIKE NEW ITEMS (IF
COMPLETE & WORKING PROPERLY)
(EXAMPLES: LEGOS, JOURNALS, NAIL POLISH,
FOOTBALLS, FLASHLIGHTS)**

Drop Off Locations

Juvenile - Tracie Nicholson

Sheriff's Office - Andrea Stewart

Highway Department- Crystal Richards

Commission Office (Cox Tower) - Megan Applegate

Historic Courthouse, Rm. 304 - Vanessa Brandon

DONATIONS WILL BE PICKED UP MONDAY, SEPT. 24