

Clarence Bee Article – December 2018

Geoffrey Hicks, Clarence Superintendent of Schools

Clarence Gives Back

The holiday season provides a perfect time to pause and count our blessings. It is also a time to let our community know about the wonderful seasonal charitable pursuits of the students and staff in the District.

At CHS, the National Honor Society collected toys for donation to Children's Hospital and the Salvation Army Shelters. The Art Honor Society and Art Partners Club held their annual holiday auction of student artwork, with all proceeds donated to the Clarence Food Pantry. The Interact Club collected clothing for the Coats for Kids program and created holiday cards for the residents of the Scared Heart Home and Brothers of Mercy. Members of the Leadership Club volunteered for the Heroes in Our Community fundraiser, made gingerbread houses for needy families and donated clothing to the Epiphany UCC Church.

The middle school faculty and staff donated frozen turkeys for needy Clarence families and adopted a child from Angel Tree to purchase gifts for. The Show Choir performed at Roswell Park. Seventh graders sponsored water tanks as part of the Ugandan Water Project, impacting over one thousand Ugandan students. The CMS Service Club visited residents at Brothers of Mercy for the 25th consecutive year.

At Clarence Center, kindergarten classrooms performed random acts of kindness each school day in December. Second graders designed holiday placemats for local nursing homes. Students in third grade coordinated the food drive for the Clarence Food Pantry and created crafts for Meals on Wheels. Fifth graders made their annual trip to volunteer at St. Luke's, and also created the Kindness Rock Garden in front of the school.

The faculty, staff and students at Harris Hill held their annual Holiday Giving Tree, donating gifts for needy Harris Hill families. Harris Hill held the annual Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony, and students created cards for the Holiday Mail for Veterans program. Students also collected jackets and blankets for St. Jude's and food for the Buffalo Food Bank. The faculty held dress down days to benefit Childhood Cancer, Juvenile Diabetes, and Alexanders Disease Research.

At Ledgeview, fourth graders organized a food drive for the Clarence Food Pantry. Students in fifth grade collected winter clothing to donate to Clarence Wear 'n Share. Second grade students raised funds for two local families that were adopted by the classes and gifts were purchased for the families.

In addition to donating to the annual mitten tree, students at Sheridan Hill donated over 260 pounds of Halloween candy to send to troops overseas. Fifth graders worked together to make fleece blankets for Project Linus, delivering the blankets to hospitals, shelters, and social service agencies. The faculty at Sheridan Hill put on a special holiday play for the students.