**RECOGNITIONS**

**September 23, 2024**

**OLDHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CONCERN**

Consider Recognizing the Following Outstanding Individuals

**DISCUSSION**

**IGNITE PASSION AWARD**

The Ignite Passion Award recognizes individuals or groups that have demonstrated exceptional commitment and efforts in fostering passion and enthusiasm within Oldham County Schools. Recipients of the Ignite Passion Award are not merely achievers; they are catalysts for positive change, transforming the atmosphere and culture within their school or within the school district. These individuals or groups possess a unique ability to ignite the flames of inspiration within students, staff, families, or the community, encouraging others to pursue excellence and embrace their own passions. Throughout the year, different locations will be able to nominate someone who fits this description. This month, La Grange Elementary and the District award winners are scheduled for recognition.

La Grange Elementary’s Ignite Passion Award winner is Melinda Hadley. Her nominator had this to say about her, “Melinda is labeled as the Library Media Specialist at our school, but that title does not do justice to the many ways she positively impacts our school community. Melinda exemplifies what it means to be a La Grange Leopard. Her level of commitment, passion, enthusiasm and compassion for her La Grange family is unmatched. Melinda supports all branches of our school - students, staff, parents and community. She recognizes and responds to the needs of the school as a whole. She regularly celebrates the successes and strengths of her colleagues and finds creative ways to engage with the community to promote literacy through innovative programming. She is at the helm of many projects which include making sure all of our students have stuffed animal reading buddies, obtaining the book vending machine, and ensuring every student received several books for their home library, running summer space camp, volunteering to facilitate late bus activities in which she purchased supplies for each station, applying for our school to take part in One School One Book Program, leading the grant writing committee and so much more. But most importantly, Mrs. Hadley is sought out by students, parents and staff as they trust that she has their best interests at heart and will support them in whatever they need.”

The District’s Ignite Passion Award winner is Northeast Christian Church. We are honored to recognize NECC for their exceptional contributions to enhancing our schools’ environment and school spirit through their Love the ‘Ville program. Their dedication to beautifying our campuses and enriching our students’ lives has made a profound impact. Through this program, NECC has played an important role in landscaping efforts and providing a welcoming environment to anyone attending or visiting schools around the district.

Additionally, NECC members have volunteered numerous hours delivering Thanksgiving food boxes, as well as donating holiday gifts for our preschool students. Their generosity extends beyond the holidays and continues throughout the year through their support various programs at OC Preschool including financial classes for families, Backpack Buddies, Family Resource Center, Spring Community Fair, Spring Family Night, and Counselor Parent Group.

Recognizing the importance of literacy, NECC helps with supplies for the library and provides free books to help foster a love of reading among our youngest readers. During Spring Family Night, NECC members volunteer to help with the literacy workshop.

These are just a few examples of the many ways NECC has impacted our schools. We are grateful for their unwavering support.

Here tonight to accept the award on behalf of Northeast Christian is Kris Eldridge.

**OLDHAM COUNTY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION PYRAMID AWARDS**

The Oldham County Educational Foundation will announce 41 Pyramid Award project winners for 2024, totaling $46,087.20 in funding. Including collaborators, 53 teachers will be introducing new learning opportunities to their classrooms.

Congratulations to these innovative teachers, we are very fortunate to have them on our team!

**Camden Station Elementary**

Lindsay Martin, Erin David, and Juliane Gnadinger

Casey Garrett, Shelby Auxier, and Candy Tackett

Lauren Bohn

**Centerfield Elementary**

Carrie Sweeny

Meaghan Fields

Michele Dawson and Zamara Johnson

Shawna Stengel

Tamera Wright

Malana Salyer

**Crestwood Elementary**

Alexandra Longstreet

Chelsea Conroy, Abbie Bean, Maricello Cancho Torres, and Rosa Hernandez-Avalos

Danielle Hardy

Nancy Robertson

Nicole Mudd

**La Grange Elementary**

Bethany Mader

Brooke Parker

Steve Mahoney

Debbie German

Meagan Ahlers

Ryan Grattan

Travis Goff

Vickie Siebert

Jennifer Diederick

Karla Lobb J-Stewart, Nancy Valencia, De Morgan and Kathryn Moosbrugger

**Harmony Elementary**

Taylor Grimm

Jessica Bailey

June-Marie Gerhart

**EOMS**

Kendall Ross

**NOMS**

Jude Bell

Tommy Hardenbrook

**OCMS**

Tara McMahan

**SOMS**

Leslie Nieport

**NOHS**

Michelle Dixon

**OCHS**

Gail Sowell

Jeffrey A. Wright

**SOHS**

Drew Groom

NixB Slider and Maria Wade

Shannon Knabel

**Arvin Education Center**

Caitlin Assami and Nicole Tschappat

Emily Spendlove

**OCSAC**

Kathleen Kerr and Jessica Guinn

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recognize these individuals for their outstanding accomplishment!