



THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL CELEBRATES POSITIVE CHARACTER AT ASSEMBLY

Assembly Recognizes Students Displaying Acts of Strong, Positive Character

Thomaston, CT, September 29, 2017- Thomaston Center School Principal, Kristin Bernier announced the Thomaston Center School community celebrated the displays of character at Center School during an assembly on Friday, September 29, 2017. Fourth, fifth, and sixth graders were recognized at the ceremony for earning more than 800 “BEAR Bucks” this month. Students earn BEAR Bucks for “**B**ehaving **E**xceptionally **A**nd **R**esponsibly - the cornerstone of the character program being implemented at Thomaston Center School. In addition to reporting on BEAR Bucks, students also were recognized for displaying responsibility throughout the month.

During the assembly, Ms. Susie Larson, Reading Intervention teacher at Center School, awarded certificates for students participating in the annual summer Governor’s Reading Challenge. Overall, sixty-four students from Thomaston Center School read a total of 981 books this summer. Ms. Sue Dalka, Math Coach for Thomaston Public Schools, and Ms. Jean Nolte, Math Intervention teacher at Center School, recognized students who participated in the Thomaston Public

School Summer Math Passport Experience. In total, more than 1,300 math tasks were completed as 128 students participated in the program. Ms. Bernier remarked, “The summer reading and math program was a wonderful opportunity for students to demonstrate responsibility and continue their learning throughout the summer. We are thrilled so many Center School students participated and we are so proud of our students’ efforts.”

Additionally, six students at Thomaston Center School were recognized for their exceptional character. Students were nominated by their peers and were selected by various staff members. Receiving awards were fourth graders Morgan Sweet and Marc Pappas, fifth graders Emily Losee and Zoe Miller, and sixth graders Maddison Joseph and Therese McDonald. Other students were also acknowledged for kind deeds throughout the month of September through a special student BEAR buck recognition.

After the awards were presented, students and teachers participated in breakout sessions to discuss the character trait of respect. Facilitators led students in working on a special project on focusing on respect. The event concluded with a sharing of ideas on how to demonstrate respect at home, school, and in the community.

Character ceremonies will be held throughout the year that will celebrate the character traits of Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Respect, Citizenship, Caring, and Fairness. The next assembly is scheduled for Monday, November 20, 2017 at 8:20 a.m. at the Thomaston Center School auditorium.

Information Regarding BEAR Bucks and Big BEAR Bucks:

Since 2014, the community of Center School has been distributing BEAR Bucks to students for their positive efforts. BEAR represents behaving exceptionally and responsibly and allude to the Thomaston Bears. Students submit earned BEAR Bucks to the office for a chance to be recognized over the school’s public address system. While BEAR Bucks represent the individual efforts of students, Big BEAR Bucks are distributed to classes when students work exceptionally well as a class.

A Big BEAR Buck drawing is held approximately every six weeks during the Character Assembly.

Thomaston Board of Education Mission Statement:

In a partnership of family, school and community, our mission is to educate, challenge and inspire each individual to excel and become a contributing member of society.

-TBOE Policy 0100

Goals and Objectives of the Thomaston Board of Education:

The Thomaston Board of Education believes that all students have a right to an education which is based on standards of excellence, which stresses rigorous demands and which serves to expand students' personal horizons. The Board believes that the education of each student is the shared responsibility of students, parents, faculty, and administrators. The Board also recognizes that students differ in their interests and abilities and therefore the district offers a comprehensive program consisting of a variety of learning experiences. The Board believes that an important function of the school is to prepare students for participation in our American democratic society. The Board seeks to improve the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical capacities of all students. The Board encourages the development of thinking and communication skills, the tolerance of and responsibility for others, and the understanding of varied cultures and life styles. In order to implement this philosophy, recognizing that elementary, middle and high school education are important steps in a lifelong process, the Board of Education establishes the following objectives:

- A. To teach the essential skills traditionally associated with the various disciplines.
- B. To develop the four communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- C. To extend and refine the students' ability to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate printed, visual, and aural material.
- D. To develop critical thinking.
- E. To further the students' development of self-awareness, self-discipline, and self-esteem.
- F. To promote the physical well-being of all students.
- G. To promote creativity and appreciation of the arts, humanities, and sciences.
- H. To encourage students to consider both the alternatives to and the consequences of their actions in the decision making process.
- I. To present career options and to assist students in setting tentative goals.
- J. To help the student appreciate that learning is integrated and continuous.

-TBOE Policy 5010



Maddison Joseph, Therese McDonald, Zoe Miller, Emily Losee, Marc Pappas, and Morgan Sweet were recognized at the Thomaston Center School Character Assembly on Friday, September 29, 2017.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Kristin Reichelt Bernier at 860-283-3036 or email at kbernier@thomastonschools.org.