

# *"We're Wild About Our Friends"*

## 2016 American Education Week Friends of Education Reception



### ***Broken Arrow Elementary – Kirsten Derby***

We can always depend on Kirsten to support students and staff through her generosity of delivering meals at conference time or being a part of the many volunteer opportunities at Broken Arrow. She often supports our teachers by putting systems in place for much-needed teacher supplies. A highlight for us is when she brings farm animals for show and tell!

### ***West Middle School – Sarah Rajiha***

Sarah has devoted hundreds of hours to students in support of our Fine Arts Department. She has helped students develop costumes for the last eight West Junior Player performances. She is kind and patient with kids and helps them be their best! She helps with costumes, make-up, hair, uniforms, and any other needs. This year, she helped our Chorale singers with dress fittings.

### ***Sunset Hill Elementary – Frannie Battaglia, Karen McDanel, and Linda Robbins***

We have an amazing set of parents at Sunset Hill. This extends beyond our students' parents to our staff members' parents! We would like to honor the Sunset Hill "Moms," who share their time with our wonderful school community.

### ***Free State High School – Alneata Barrett***

The heart-and-soul of parent support for Free State, Alneata is an active member of site council and the founder, promoter, and leader of Firebird Families. Without her dedication and service, many of our parent support activities would not exist.

### ***Billy Mills Middle School – Lisa Jones***

In addition to serving as our Cougar Parent Organization president, Lisa donates her time and efforts to support Parent-Teacher Conference dinners and helps with fundraising to support grade-level activities. She also volunteers in classrooms and on field trips.

### ***New York Elementary – Kathy Campbell***

A longtime supporter of New York Elementary, Kathy works tirelessly every week to support students and staff through Monday folder preparation and Back Snack distribution. Volunteers like Kathy make the New York school community positive for everyone!

### ***Kennedy Elementary – Douglas Paul, Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club***

The Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club supports us through its dedication to literacy and student achievement. Their members read to student each week, judge the spelling bee, and donate time and financial support.

### ***Southwest Middle School – Dr. Martin Bergee***

During our 12-year collaboration, Dr. Bergee, KU's associate dean for academic affairs, has brought senior music education majors to Southwest with their instruments in tow to play and work with the band. It's a win-win! Our students receive small group instruction and inspiration from the college musicians, and the university students gain much needed hands-on experience.

### ***Lawrence High School – Michele Vignola-Rogers***

Michele has supported the Music Department for several years by hosting receptions, organizing fundraisers, and creating, sewing, and repairing gowns and suits for performances. She also assists with theater and the Prom Dress Drive and Distribution.

### ***Woodlawn – Lindsey Holladay***

Lindsey has served as PTO president for two years, and is back as President-Elect to lead again next year! She leads a Spelling Bee Club to prepare students for the school spelling bee. We appreciate her dedication, enthusiasm, and great sense of humor!

### ***Liberty Memorial Central Middle School – Nicole Rials***

Nicole serves our school in a variety of ways, including co-sponsoring Girl Talk, a club to promote healthy growth and social development for girls. She has performed at our MLK assemblies and has been a guest speaker for our Families of Color group.

### ***Prairie Park – Sheryl Sanders***

Prairie Park feels fortunate to have a strong working relationship with the Lawrence Community Shelter. Our link there is Sheryl Sanders, the director of family services. She provides a daily bridge between our school and the Shelter, and advocates for families.

### ***Deerfield – Wendy Canaday***

A parent at Deerfield for the past six years, Wendy is an active member and "a voice of reason" on our PTO. We can always count on her to step up for the tough jobs whenever needed!

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5:30 p.m., November 14, 2018



### **Hillcrest Elementary – Ande Kearns, Pet World**

Ande supports our school with classroom presentations, some of which are directly tied to our Project-Based Learning units. She has been instrumental in getting the Pets in the Classroom program going at Hillcrest, and our students (and staff) are always excited to meet the newest classroom pet!

### **Pinckney Elementary – Arika Sprecker**

Arika has taken over the organizing of Pinckney's Pacers Marathon Club. This is no small volunteer job, as Pinckney has about 80% of our student body (200 kids!) participating. She organizes adult volunteers, tag scanning, and student awards every Friday during our morning openers. Because of her hard work, our Monday and Friday after-school runs are perfectly organized chaos!



### **Sunflower Elementary – Grace Lee**

Grace has been a tremendous asset to Sunflower from the moment she walked through the doors. In the four years that Grace has been associated with Sunflower Elementary, she has served as PTO President, Vice President, Book Fair Chair, and helped with countless committees and projects. Her desire for every student receive the absolute best opportunity possible, both academically and socially, is the reason she is deserving of this award.

### **Schwegler Elementary – Jenny Hohman**

Jenny has served as our PTA President for a record-breaking four years. She has spent countless hours creating and supporting efforts to bring our school community together, while also raising funds for teachers and the school. Thank you, Jenny, for your dedication to and support of Schwegler Elementary School!

### **Cordley Elementary – Gary Bricker**

Gary has been supporting Cordley Elementary students in their math learning three days a week for several years! His encouragement of both students and teachers leads directly to higher achievement. His extra-special dose of care and attention keeps us engaged and trying our best!



### **Quail Run Elementary – Pat Nemchock**

Not only is Pat an award-winning art teacher, she is an amazing grandmother to five Hawley grandsons, two of whom are at Quail Run, with more to come. She has volunteered every morning to bring learning to life through art and creativity. My kindergartners and families love her!

### **Langston Hughes Elementary – Lisa Foust & Julie Lintecum**

Lisa and Julie have been dedicated volunteers for many years at Langston Hughes school. They led our staff appreciation for multiple years. These ladies have brought joy to our entire staff on various occasions and have a special way of making our staff feel loved and appreciated!

*Special thanks to our 2018 Friends of Education, all school volunteers, today's presenters, and event volunteers Nicole Aquí, LHS; Rita Joseph and Bayn Schrader, FSHS; Charlotte Anderson, Rachel Asbury, Jessica Beeson, Julie Boyle, Susan Desandre, ESC technology services, custodial, and printing staff, Dr. Anthony Lewis, Coleen Martin, and Jeff Plinsky.*