



# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

January 21, 2025

THINK LEARN BE  
**MORE**  
**TOGETHER**

POCATELLO/CHUBBUCK  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 25



Tonight we will recognize several individuals who,  
through their actions, support and embody our  
District's Mission to THINK MORE, LEARN MORE,  
and BE MORE TOGETHER.

**THINK LEARN BE**  
**MORE**  
**TOGETHER**  
POCATELLO/CHUBBUCK  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 25



PCSD 25 believes a safe, supportive, caring, and respectful environment is critical to student learning. The School District 25 Education Foundation, in partnership with McDonald's, supports the Learner-of-the-Month award to recognize one elementary learner and one secondary learner from our district, from October through May. The C.A.K.E. Award celebrates positive character, attitude, kindness, and encouragement toward others. Nominations for the C.A.K.E. Award are submitted by a teacher who has observed the nominee's behavior and are approved by the school's principal.

C.A.K.E. Award recipients receive recognition at the monthly Board of Trustees regular meeting; a gift card for the recipient and their teacher, and a \$50 donation to purchase books in the recipient's name, both courtesy of the Johnson Family McDonald's.

## Elementary School Learner-of-the-Month

### **Devin Blakeslee** **5th grade, Indian Hills Elementary School**

Nominated by:  
Whitney Curzon

Mrs Curzon wrote in her nomination letters, "I would like to recognize Devin for being an outstanding student and role model in our school. Devin exemplifies qualities that make him a respected, compassionate, and influential presence both in the classroom and on the playground. He is a great example of a KIND Cougar!

Devin is a kind and thoughtful young man who consistently demonstrates a willingness to lend a helping hand. He possesses a unique ability to lead quietly and humbly, making him a figure that others naturally gravitate toward. Devin is patient, understanding, and inclusive, always making sure that every student feels welcome and valued, particularly during recess and group activities. His flexibility and versatility allow him to adapt to different situations, and he seamlessly works with students of all personalities and backgrounds.

One of Devin's standout qualities is his leadership on the playground. We recently got a GaGa Ball pit, and although Devin is competitive, he encourages others to do their best. He not only includes everyone in games and activities but also helps solve conflicts that arise, always ensuring a fair and respectful resolution. His peers look to him for guidance, and he sets a positive example by leading with empathy and integrity. He has a unique gift for fostering an environment where every child feels they belong.

Devin Blakeslee is a student who consistently embodies the values we strive to instill in our Indian Hills Cougar Community. His quiet yet impactful leadership and inclusive spirit make him an ideal candidate for this recognition. Devin has positively impacted his peers and teachers alike, and I am honored to nominate him for this award."





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### Secondary School Learner-of-the-Month

#### Madden Kunz

6th grade, Alameda Middle School

Nominated by:  
Jodi Diaz

In her nomination letter, Mrs. Diaz wrote, “I knew I wanted to nominate Madden for this award the very first time I met him. I first noticed Madden during the assembly on the first day of school. Every boy seemed to want to sit by him. There was a boy with special needs who Madden already knew from elementary school. Madden sat right beside him and all the other boys followed. Madden includes everyone. Because Madden is a natural leader, when he does it, so does everyone else. I have watched Madden and his friends include this boy every day since the first day of school in everything they do. Madden is caring, inclusive, empathetic, and compassionate. As an adult, I strive to be these things, but it takes effort. For Madden, it comes naturally as part of his character. Madden has no idea the lasting positive impact he has on the people around him, specifically his friend from elementary school, but it warms my heart and I look forward to seeing the amazing things he will do throughout middle school and after.”







## JANUARY 2025

The Employee-of-the-Month P.I.E.S. award recognizes our employees who Positively Influence Educational Success. The award is for employees who go above and beyond in that effort.

PIES Award recipients receive a \$50 gift card from Lookout Credit Union, our educational partner for this award.

Becky Corrington, 2nd Grade Teacher  
Syringa Elementary School

Nominated by:  
Cynthia Lund

In her nomination letter, Mrs. Lund wrote, “Becky consistently goes above and beyond in her efforts to ensure the educational success of all her learners. She skillfully juggles the demands of a busy classroom while also mentoring a student teacher, demonstrating her ability to manage multiple responsibilities with poise and professionalism. Her organizational skills and innate ability to prioritize tasks allow her to create a supportive and engaging learning environment for all her students.

One of the most commendable aspects of Becky’s work this year is her commitment to meeting the diverse needs of her learners. Notably, she has taken significant strides to support a student who is hearing impaired. She has not only ensured that this student receives a high-quality education, but has also actively engaged with the student’s family to facilitate effective communication and support. Becky has implemented tailored strategies and resources to enhance the learning experience for this student, demonstrating her deep understanding of inclusive education practices. Her ability to foster a sense of belonging and empowerment among her learners is truly remarkable.

Becky embodies the principles of empathy and advocacy, ensuring that every student feels valued and included, regardless of their unique challenges. This commitment to her students’ well-being and success sets her apart as an educator who genuinely cares about the impact of her teaching.”





## Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

*Meg Fleischmann,  
Century High School*

Meg Fleischmann, who teaches and coaches at Century High School, has been selected to receive a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

The PAEMST program, administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, recognizes outstanding teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Each awardee will receive a certificate signed by President Biden and a \$10,000 award from NSF. Awardees will also travel to Washington, D.C., for an awards ceremony at a future date.

The application process included documenting evidence for 5 Teaching Dimensions:

1. Mastery of content
2. Use of effective instructional methods and strategies to support student learning
3. Effective use of student assessment to evaluation, monitor, and improve student learning
4. Reflective practice and lifelong learning to improve teaching and student learning
5. Leadership in education inside and outside of the classroom.

When invited to be recognized before the Board at tonight's meeting, Meg was adamant about sharing the recognition with the many who have helped her along the way, including: Sheryl Brockett, Cassie Atwood, Jaime Berry Dr. Curt Anderson, Chuck Orr, and Kathy Luras, who all helped in areas from writing letters of recommendation to providing ideas and support in the journey.

Meg wrote, "I think that 25 years of SD25 professional development, district activities, and committee work in the district was a big part of the award ... and that doesn't happen with just me ... that's the involvement and efforts of a LOT of people!"

Meg's excellence in teaching and humble approach to receiving this prestigious national award, embody the district's motto to *Think More, Learn More, and Be MORE Together.*





# **PCSD 25**

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