



Seneca Valley School District

Story/Photo Pitch

For Immediate Release

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Photos Attached:

SECOND GRADE STUDENTS CELEBRATE THEIR CLASSMATE'S ADOPTION DAY

JACKSON TWP., PA (May 31, 2024) – In celebration of finding his forever home, second-grade students in Ms. Cami Maurer's class at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary (CVE) organized a surprise adoption party for their classmate, Brycen Semprevivo, who has been officially adopted by his foster parents.

The surprise adoption party included a classroom visit by his parents of 3.5 years, Dennis and Julie Detar, where they read a book about adoption to help students understand how the process works. After the reading, each student selected a stuffed animal and filled out an adoption application for it. Once they demonstrated they could care for their stuffed animal, they received an official certificate signed by "Judge Brycen!"

In addition to the planning the surprise party, Brycen's teacher Ms. Maurer was invited to witness Brycen's adoption ceremony via Zoom from the courtroom.

"Brycen and his younger brother Blake were officially adopted by their incredible foster parents," said Ms. Maurer, CVE second grade teacher. "Brycen has been patiently waiting to change his name and share this wonderful news with his classmates. We were all so excited that we wanted to throw him a surprise party when he returned to school. This celebration included his parents surprising him for lunch, reading a story about adoption, and the chance for his classmates to adopt. The students filled out applications to adopt a stuffed animal and once they were approved, Brycen acted as our judge and signed their certificates. This was a wonderful opportunity to show the students everything that goes into adoption and how truly amazing it is. Brycen was so excited to share this experience with his friends and school."

Editor's Note: Please contact Tiffany Hernandez at hernandeztn@svsd.net if you're interested in a story. I'm happy to help set up an interview.