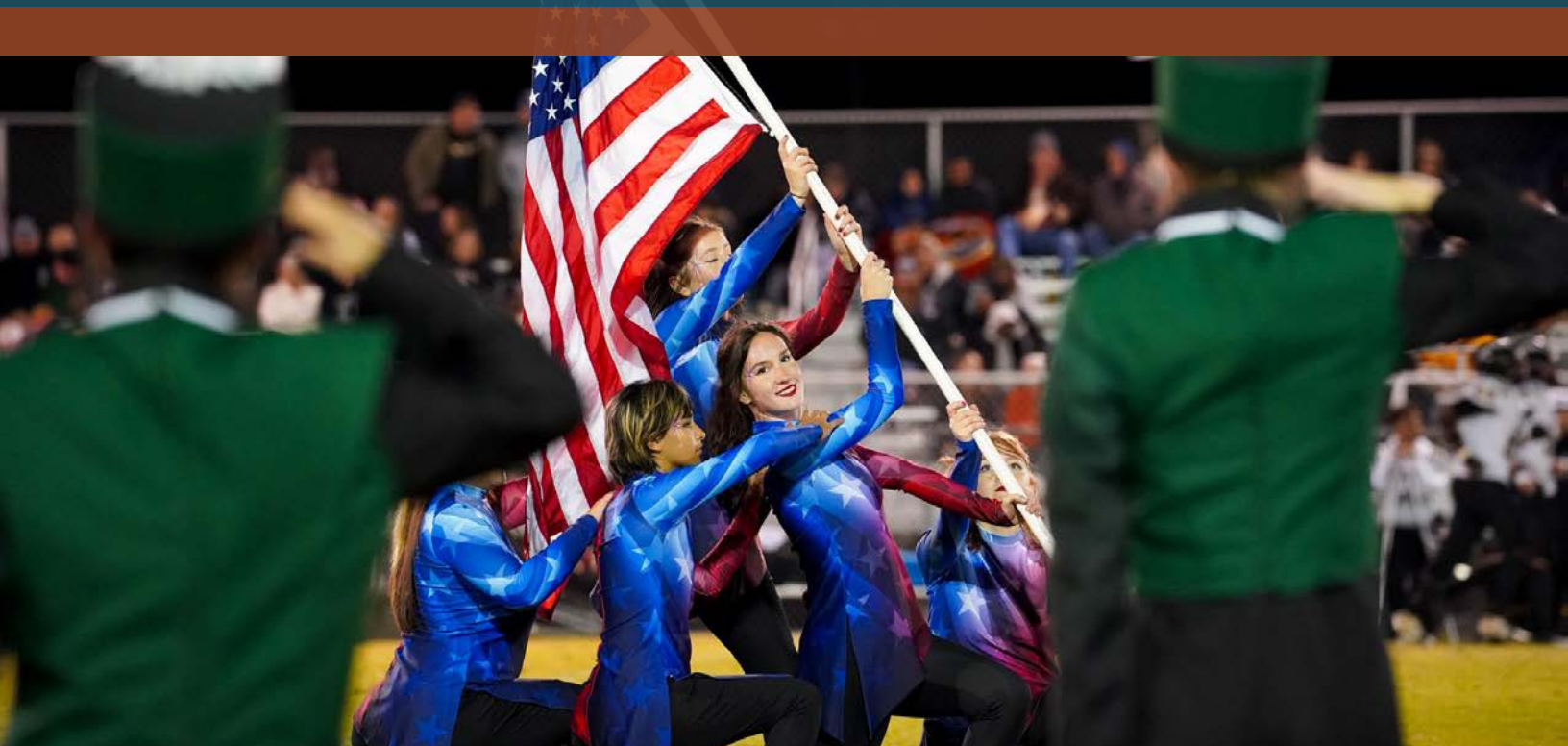




ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS TOGETHER FOR EDUCATION

Celebrating Student Success, Together



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

11/3	PD Day (No Students)
11/4	Parent/Teacher Conf. (No Students)
11/10	School Board Meeting
11/14	Q2 Progress Reports
11/26 11/28	Thanksgiving Break

From the Desk Of . . .

Rodney Hopper | SUPERVISOR OF TECHNOLOGY

November is a time to reflect on our blessings and show gratitude for the connections and opportunities that enrich our lives. In Technology, we're thankful for the tools that help empower both students and staff every day.

Education is at the forefront of everything we do. Every device, every system we maintain, and every classroom we support is centered around helping students learn and teachers teach more effectively. Our incredible team works behind the scenes to ensure technology enhances the learning experience.

We're grateful for the opportunity to serve our schools and community, and we look forward to all that's ahead.

Community Spotlight

Partners in Education

Our schools thrive because of the incredible support from our community partners. From sweet treats to hands-on learning experiences, these partnerships continue to inspire, encourage, and celebrate our students and staff.

Bransford Elementary

Students had an exciting day as the City of Springfield's Police, Fire, Electric, and Public Works departments rolled onto campus for a Touch-a-Truck event! Students explored city vehicles up close, met the crews who operate them, and learned what it takes to keep our community running safely and smoothly.

Crestview Elementary

A special thank-you to Amazin' Glazin' Fried Pies for donating Crestview's October Perfect Attendance basket! Your support helps keep students motivated, and your delicious pies are a local favorite. (You can also find them at Historic Perk, Hancock Farm, and Head's Farm!)

Jo Byrns High School

Congratulations to Jo Byrns High School's perfect attendance winners! Thank you to Dairy Queen for sponsoring the weekly prizes and encouraging students to show up every day. Because attendance matters!



Community Spotlight

Partners in Education

Springfield High School

The Springfield High School Band helped celebrate the grand opening of Panda Express with an energetic performance! Even better—50% of the event’s sales were donated to the SHS Band Boosters. Thank you to Panda Express for supporting our student musicians!

Greenbrier High School

As part of their Law Enforcement unit, Greenbrier High’s Criminal Justice students gained hands-on experience with their School Resource Officers, Cpl. Rippey and Officer Baum. Students explored police vehicles, equipment, and procedures—stepping into both the officer and arrestee roles for an authentic learning experience that gives them a head start toward future law enforcement careers.

Watauga Elementary

Watauga’s RidgeTots had a big day with some very special visitors and even bigger trucks! A huge thank-you to Weaver Construction, the Robertson County Book Bus, the Ridgetop Fire Department, and the Robertson County Sheriff’s Office for making learning fun and memorable for our youngest Warriors.

Robert F. Woodall Elementary

Thank you to The Pink Truck for stopping by and treating our staff—your continued partnership means so much to us.

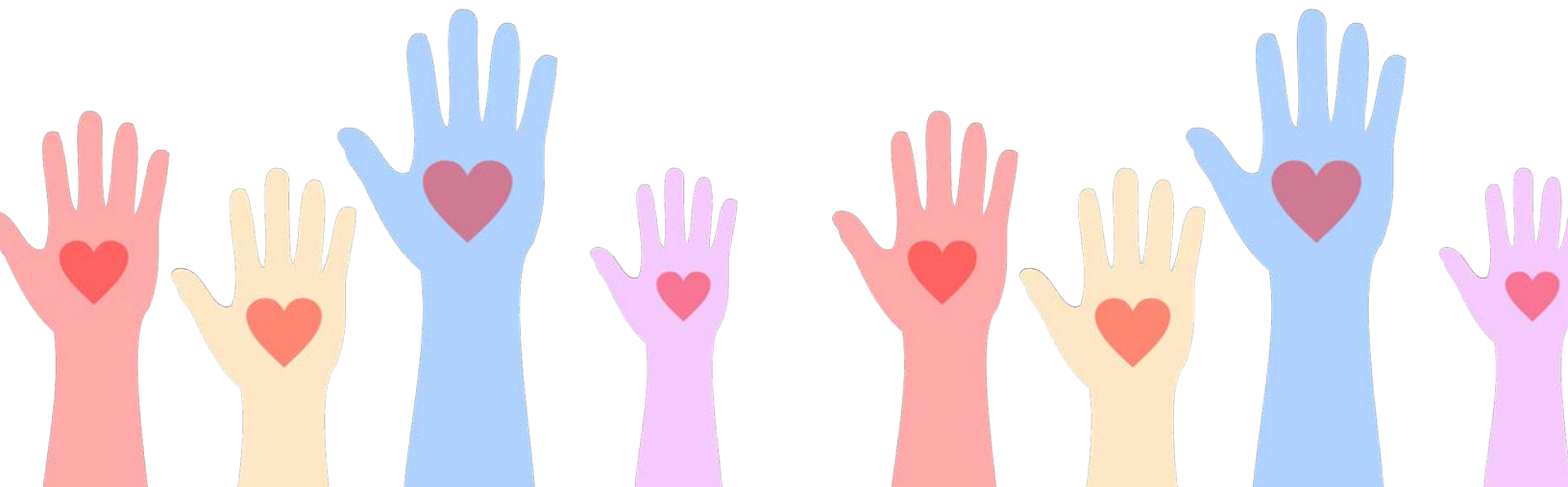




Westside Elementary

A heartfelt thank-you to Rachel Loxley for sharing our WES story with 24 Church! We are so grateful that this wonderful group continues to help beautify our campus. They stocked the kitchen with snacks, refreshed landscaping, provided toiletries for bathrooms, pressure washed several areas, and so much more. WES looks amazing thanks to their care and generosity! Students are encouraged to take pride in their school and help keep it looking great.

We're thankful for every act of kindness and partnership that helps lift up our students and staff across the district. It is a constant reminder that we are all in this together. Each visit, donation, and gesture of support strengthens our schools and creates lasting connections that make our community stronger



NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK MENU



OCTOBER 20-24

taste the world:
your school lunch passport!

Our students celebrated National School Lunch Week with a culinary adventure that took them across the globe! From October 20–24, the Nutrition Department served international-inspired meals, giving students the chance to explore new flavors and learn about food traditions from around the world.

The week's featured destinations included:

Monday – China: Mandarin Orange Chicken

Tuesday – Mexico: Taco Meat with Tortilla Chips

Wednesday – France: Chicken Cordon Bleu

Thursday – Italy: Spaghetti with Meatballs

Friday – Southern USA: Breakfast for Lunch

Thank you to our dedicated Nutrition Team for creating such a fun and flavorful experience for students. National School Lunch Week was not only delicious, it was a meaningful opportunity to celebrate healthy choices and the importance of nourishing our learners every day!





ARTIC OCEAN



NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN



SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN



ANTARCTICA



Fall Band Concert

Innovation Academy of Rob Co.

Innovation Academy hosted a fantastic Fall Band Concert featuring performances by the Beginning Band, Middle School Band, and High School Band. Students showcased a variety of works, including Jack End's "Blues for a Killed Kat", as well as pieces by Percy Grainger, Brian Balmages, Anne McGinty, and more.

The evening was made even more special with appearances by Dr. Jeffrey Phillips, Jimmy Ownby, and Mr. Albamont as guest performers. Adding to the excitement, Ms. Emily Castillo from Crestview Elementary served as guest conductor, leading the high school band through Frank Ticheli's "A Shaker Gift Song".

Families and community members also enjoyed the annual band bake sale, which helped support the band program. It was a memorable evening celebrating the hard work, talent, and dedication of our students and staff, and a wonderful way to bring the community together through music.





GES Receives Donation

Dollar General Literacy Foundation

Thanks to the generosity of The Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Dollar General, and Kellanova, GES received a remarkable donation that will create lasting opportunities for both students and teachers.

This impactful gift included:

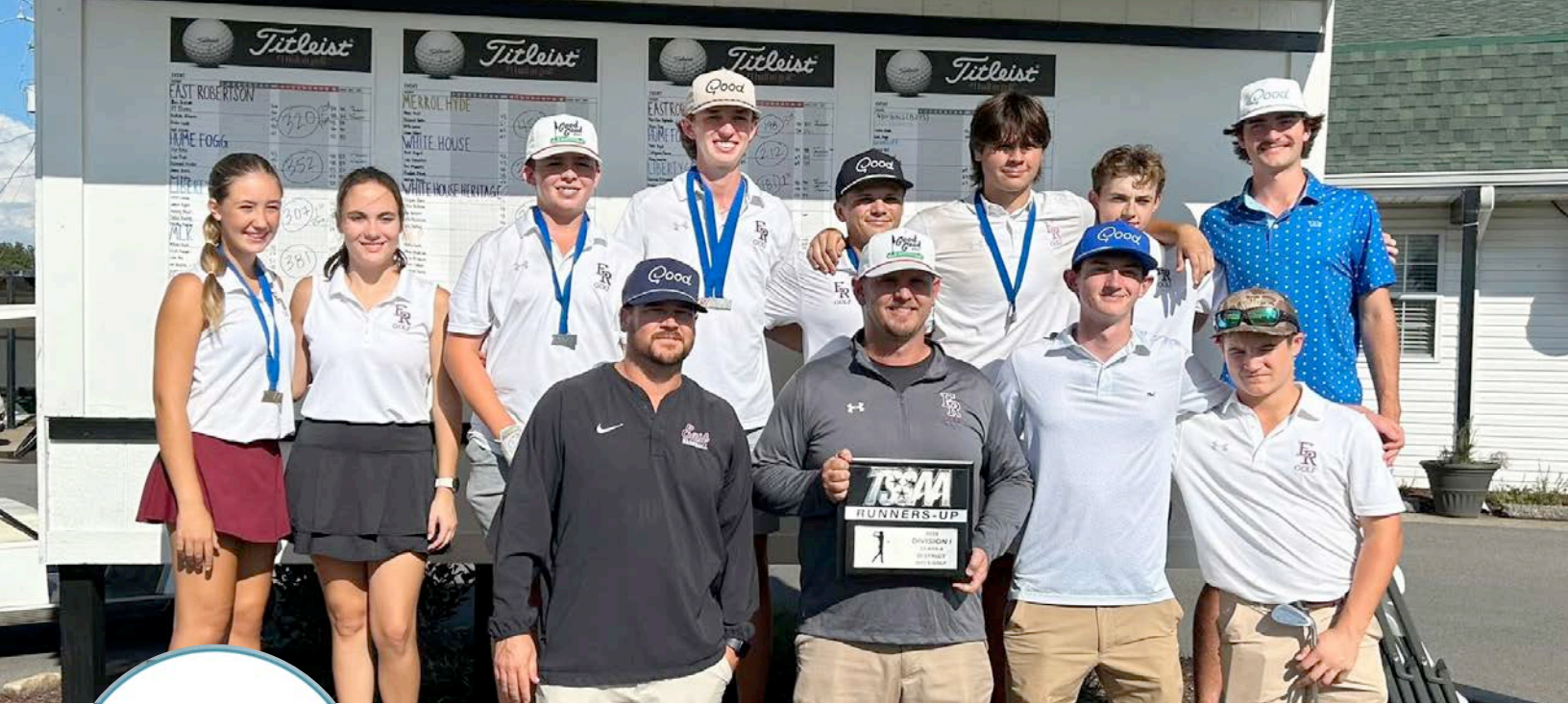
- \$50,000 to support student learning and school programs
- 600 brand-new books to inspire a love of reading
- \$25 Dollar General gift cards for every teacher
- Literacy goody bags for all students
- Snacks to keep learners energized throughout the day

We are truly grateful for this exceptional investment in our school community. On behalf of Robertson County Schools, we extend our deepest appreciation for this meaningful support of our students, teachers, and future.



**DOLLAR GENERAL
LITERACY
FOUNDATION**

Kellanova



Maddox Batson Gives Back to ERHS Golf Team

Stay Positive News

Maddox Batson, a young singer-songwriter from Tennessee who has gained national attention for his music, made a generous donation to the East Robertson High School golf team. The gift included high-quality, personalized bags, polos, and accessories from Good Good Golf.

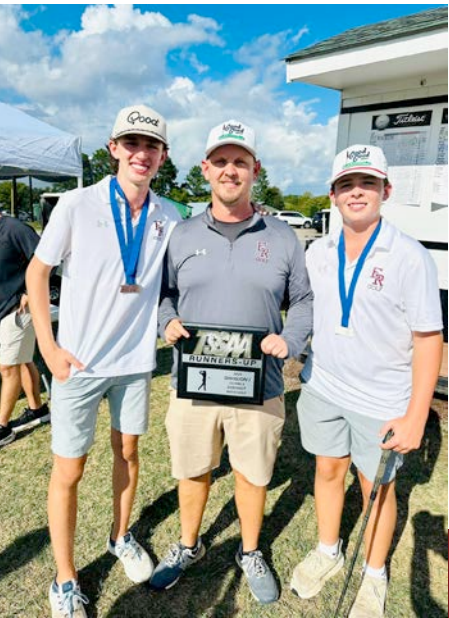
Head Golf and Men's Basketball Coach Kurt Caton noticed a shift in the players' attitudes. He said the donation inspired enthusiasm for the game and reinforced their desire to represent the school well. For many players, this was their first experience with professional-level, personalized equipment, helping them feel recognized as athletes and as part of a team and community.

The impact went beyond the golf course. Sophomore P.T. Flippo noted that acts of generosity like Batson's inspire others to "pay it forward," creating a ripple effect for future students and teams. For Batson, the donation was a way to reconnect with, and support his hometown.

For the East Robertson golf team, it was a meaningful reminder that their hard work and potential are seen and valued.

[Read the full article from Stay Positive News](#)

[Maddox Batson Official Website](#)





Center Stage in RCSTN

Visual and Performing Arts

Heritage High Theatre kicked off their opening night with a fantastic performance as they presented *The Play That Goes Wrong (High School Edition)* by Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer, and Henry Shields.

This fast-paced comedy follows a determined theater troupe whose best efforts are continually derailed by unexpected mishaps. The students delivered an evening full of laughter, energy, and entertainment.

Congratulations to the cast and crew for a wonderful production!



Every school in our district is filled with students who are discovering their voices, building confidence, and expressing creativity through the arts. Attending school performances is a powerful way to support their growth and celebrate the vibrant talent in our community. Whether it's theatre, choir, band, or dance, your presence matters. To explore upcoming events and performances across the district, follow the Robertson County Schools Visual and Performing Arts page on Facebook and online calendar to make plans to be part of the magic! Link: <https://www.rcstn.net/departments/fine-arts/visual-and-performing-arts-calendar>

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS



VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Family Engagement Events

Learning and Community Together

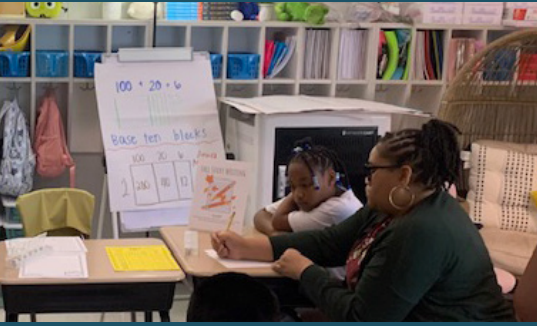
Family Engagement Nights are an important part of how Robertson County Schools builds strong partnerships with families. These events are designed to help parents understand school programs, connect with staff, and participate in activities that support student learning. All in a welcoming, family-friendly environment.

At a recent district event, families had the opportunity to learn more about the English Learner (EL Program and the services available to support students across Robertson County. At GES, families engaged in a lively game of BINGO and awesome prizes provided by the Family Resource Center.

These events wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our school staff who plan and host them, as well as the support of our Federal Programs team.

Schools throughout the district will continue to offer similar engagement opportunities during the year. We encourage families to follow their school's social media pages and our website to stay informed about upcoming events and ways to get involved!

Link to calendar events: www.rcstn.net/departments/federal-programs





School Bus Safety Week

Bransford Early Learning School

The Student Transportation Department gave Bransford Early Learning School students an engaging experience as part of School Bus Safety Week. Maynor Sacalxot and Michael Smith visited the school with “Barney the Bus,” a remote-controlled, child-friendly school bus used to teach young students about bus safety in an interactive way. With animated features such as moving eyes, working lights, and a functioning stop sign, Barney helps demonstrate how to safely approach, board, ride, and exit a school bus in a way that keeps young learners excited and involved.

Students spent time learning about the importance of bus safety, what bus drivers do each day, and how the big yellow bus helps them get to and from school safely. The hands-on experience made the lessons memorable and fun, giving students a chance to explore safety exercises beyond the typical classroom setting.

Thank you Student Transportation Department for making this experience possible!



HALLOWEEN

Spirit



Halloween brought creativity, costumes, and good spirits to schools across our district! Students, teachers, and staff celebrated with festive decorations, themed activities, plenty of smiles and CANDY! From classroom parties to hallway parades, each event was a day full of laughter and memories.

Some would say our staff might have had even more fun than the students!

Check out photos from our Halloween celebrations to see the imaginative costumes, exciting activities, and happy students throughout the district. Thank you to everyone who helped make these events safe, fun, and memorable for all!



HALLOWEEN

Spirit



HALLOWEEN

Spirit



HALLOWEEN

Spirit



FALL CAREER FAIR

We recently welcomed prospective educators and staff to our annual Fall Career Fair! Held at the Board of Education on October 28, the event gave participants the opportunity to meet school administrators and department supervisors.

Attendees were able to receive on-site interviews and learn about opportunities for both certified and classified positions across the district.

Representatives from departments such as Buildings and Grounds, Instructional Assistants, School Nutrition, Student Transportation, and ESS Substitutes were available to answer questions and discuss openings.

We had a great time connecting with talented individuals who are interested in joining our team!

If you were unable to attend or want to learn more about current openings, we encourage you to visit our website or contact the Human Resources department for additional information.

[Explore Career Opportunities Here!](#)



FALL CAREER FAIR





PHOTO CREDIT: ©JOURNAL COMMUNICATIONS/NATHAN LAMBRECHT

Robertson Co. Roots Celebrating our Alumni



Lee & Halie Bagwell

FARM OWNERS & OPERATORS

“ Don't ever let anyone tell you not to farm if you feel that is your calling. ”

SPRINGFIELD HIGH &
JO BYRNS HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2012 & 2013





Photos: tnfarmbureau.org



This month, we are proud to spotlight Lee and Halie Bagwell, owners and operators of Triple J. Farms in the Cedar Hill community. Lee, a 2012 graduate of Jo Byrns High School, and Halie, a 2013 graduate of Springfield High School, are continuing a family farming tradition deeply rooted in Robertson County.



Triple J. Farms has been part of the Bagwell family for four generations. The name honors three earlier stewards of the land: Lee's father John, his uncle Jimmy, and his grandfather, also named John. Lee grew up working alongside his father and after earning his B.S. in Agricultural Business Management from Austin Peay State University, he returned home to work full time on the farm. In 2016, he stepped into the role of managing the operation and continued the tradition of hard work and agricultural pride.



Today, Lee and Halie oversee a diversified operation that spans more than 1,300 acres of corn, wheat, and soybeans. They also maintain the region's long-standing tobacco heritage by growing several varieties across roughly 50 acres. This includes dark-fired, dark air-cured, and specialty wrapper tobaccos used in cigar production.

Their farm sits in an area known as the Black Patch, which is recognized for its historic tobacco production in Tennessee and western Kentucky.



Photos: tnfarmbureau.org

Running the farm is a true team effort. As business owners and managers, Lee and Halie plan and execute financial decisions, crop decisions, and everything in between to support a successful farming operation. Halie, who earned her B.S. in Radiologic Technology from Austin Peay, manages the financial and administrative side of the business, while Lee focuses on daily operations such as crop health and labor management. In addition to tending to the daily demands of the farm, they are also raising the fifth generation: their sons, John Lee and Jackson.

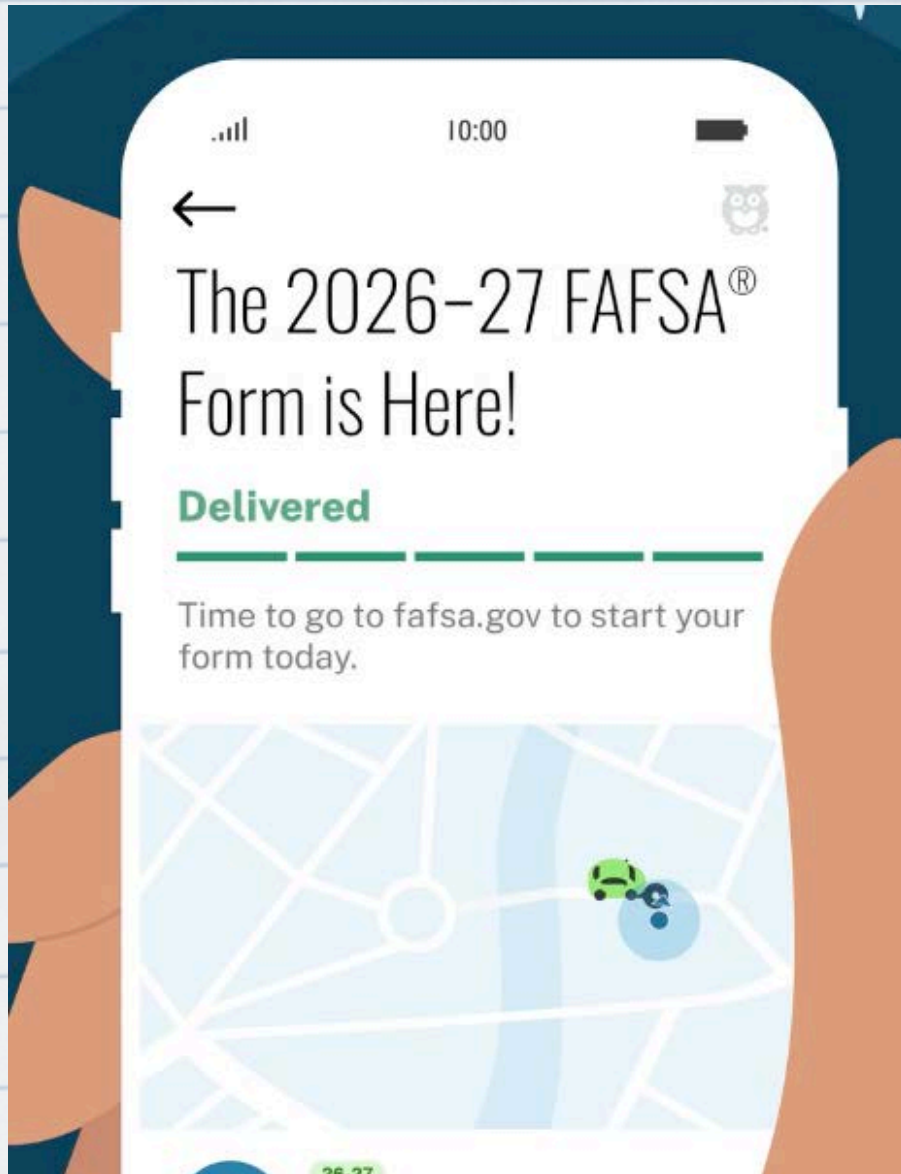
Their dedication to agriculture has earned them recognition across the state. In 2021, the Bagwells were named Tennessee Young Farmers of the Year. Lee currently serves as the state chairman of Tennessee Young Farmers & Ranchers and holds an ex officio seat on the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation board of directors. Lee credits former teacher Mr. Garry Gibson and his agriculture courses at Jo Byrns for helping nurture his interest in farming.

When asked what advice they would share with students who are interested in agriculture, the Bagwells said, “Do not ever let anyone tell you not to farm if you feel that is your calling. It does not matter if you are first generation or fifth. If you want to do it, you can make it happen.”

For Lee and Halie, farming is a family legacy they hope to pass on to their children. Their goal is to continue building a strong, resilient operation that future generations can carry forward when the time comes.

[Some Information adapted from Tennessee Home & Farm Magazine](#)

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS



2026 - 27 FAFSA IS NOW OPEN!

The FAFSA for the 2026-2027 academic year is now available, and it's a great time to file early! Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) helps you access federal financial aid, including grants, loans, and work-study opportunities. By filing early, you maximize your chances of receiving aid, especially for limited funds like state grants or campus-based programs. Make sure to gather necessary documents, like tax returns and proof of income, to ensure a smooth application process. Filing now also gives you plenty of time to address any issues that might come up.

Don't miss out on financial support for your education!

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Certified
Starting
Salary

\$51,612

Insurance 90% Family
Coverage

\$30,000 Life Insurance
Provided at No-Cost

Section 125 Cafeteria Plan

Retirement Plan (TCRS)

And More!



**WE ARE HIRING
TEACHERS!!**

Join RCSTN Today!

We're seeking dedicated teachers who want to empower students to reach their fullest potential and help strengthen our community for the future.

Join us in shaping a learning environment where high expectations and innovation prepare every student for success.

Starting Teacher Salary: \$51,612

- Insurance 90% Family Coverage
 - \$30,000 Life Insurance Policy (no cost to employee)
 - Section 125 / Cafeteria Plan (provider: USABLE)
 - Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System
 - 403B Plan (provider: Ameriprise Financial Services)
- Additional employee discounts, benefits, and programs!!*

Current Openings:

- K-5
 - Spanish
 - 6-12 Mathematics
 - 6-12 Physical Education
 - Special Education
- *Requirements: Must hold a bachelor's degree.

**Interested in teaching on a permit or job-embedded license?
We'd love to hear from you!**

Contact Us: Annette.weeks@rcstn.net
(615) 384-5588

#WeAreRCSTN