AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

November 17, 2026

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.

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MORE
TOGETHER
POCATELLO/CHUBBUCK
SCHOOL DISTRICT 25

November 2026



PCSD 25 believes a safe, supportive, caring, and respectful environment is essential to learner success. The School District 25 Education Foundation, in partnership with Kind Community, sponsors the C.A.K.E. Award to recognize one elementary and one secondary learner each month from October through May. C.A.K.E. stands for Character, Attitude, Kindness, and Encouragement. Nominations are submitted by teachers who observe these qualities in their learners and are approved by each school's principal.

Recipients are recognized at a Board of Trustees meeting. Each learner and their nominating teacher receives a gift card, and a $50 donation is made in the learner's name to purchase books for their school library, courtesy of Kind Community.

Elementary School Learner-of-the-Month

Lennyn Bell
3rd Grade | Ellis Elementary School

Nominated by:
Jamie Henson

Our elementary C.A.K.E. Award recipient this month is Lennyn Bell, a third grader at Ellis Elementary School nominated by her teacher, Jamie Henson.

Lennyn is described as one of the most hardworking and genuinely kind students her teacher has ever had the pleasure of teaching. Having taught Lennyn in both first and third grade, her teacher has had the unique opportunity to watch her grow, not only academically, but also into a thoughtful and compassionate young person.

Lennyn consistently leads by example. She is responsible, dependable, and always willing to lend a helping hand. But what makes Lennyn especially remarkable is the genuine joy she finds in celebrating others. When a classmate accomplishes something, Lennyn is often the first to cheer them on, celebrating their success as enthusiastically as her own.

At the beginning of the school year, Lennyn was seated next to a classmate who was having a difficult time adjusting to third grade. Without being asked, she quietly became a source of encouragement and support, showing patience and kindness while helping her classmate feel more comfortable and confident.

Lennyn reminds us that true leadership isn't always about standing out. Sometimes, it's about helping others shine. She doesn't just work hard to succeed herself; she wants everyone around her to succeed, too.

Lennyn, thank you for demonstrating Character, Attitude, Kindness, and Encouragement in such a meaningful way. Congratulations on being our elementary C.A.K.E. Award recipient!



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Secondary School Learner-of-the-Month

Dan Marble
7th Grade, Alameda Middle School

Nominated by:
Lyndsey Matthews

Our secondary C.A.K.E. Award recipient this month is Dan Marble, a seventh grader at Alameda Middle School, nominated by Lyndsey Matthews.

Dan's family nickname, "Dan the Man," couldn't be more fitting. According to his teacher, if you need someone to give their very best effort, model a skill, or set a positive example for others, Dan is your man!

Dan approaches everything he does with determination and diligence, whether he's fully engaged in his academic studies or working toward his black belt in taekwondo. But what truly sets Dan apart is his remarkable combination of confidence, compassion, and kindness.

When a classmate is being disruptive or disrespectful, Dan doesn't hesitate to step in—but he does so with patience and respect. His teacher shares that sometimes a simple, kindly worded question from Dan is all it takes to calm a frustrated classmate or redirect an unkind comment. He has a natural ability to work with anyone, helping others find solutions rather than creating conflict.

Equally impressive is Dan's willingness to acknowledge his own mistakes. He holds himself to the same high standards he models for others, demonstrating honesty, humility, and personal accountability.

Dan reminds us that leadership doesn't require a loud voice or a position of authority. Sometimes, the most powerful influence comes from someone who simply chooses to do what's right, even when it's difficult.

Dan, thank you for demonstrating Character, Attitude, Kindness, and Encouragement through your actions every day. Congratulations on being our secondary C.A.K.E. Award recipient!



NOVEMBER 2026

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.

Connie Wells
Tyhee Elementary School | Counselor

Nominated by:
Makai Furniss and Megan Furniss,
Courtney Kent and Rachel Southwick

Our November PIES Award recipient is Connie Wells, the school counselor at Tyhee Elementary School, who was nominated by four members of her school community: learner Makai Furniss, parent Megan Furniss, and colleagues Courtney Kent and Rachel Southwick.

It's not every day that a PIES Award nomination comes from a learner, a parent, and two colleagues. But that speaks to the extraordinary impact Connie has on the entire Tyhee school community.

For Makai, Mrs. Wells was someone who helped him navigate big emotions, teaching him how to take deep breaths, manage his wiggles, and develop positive social skills. But what Makai remembers are the little things—like Mrs. Wells greeting him by name in the hallway and making him feel welcome. As Makai simply put it, "I think she's awesome because she is always herself."

From a parent's perspective, Megan shared how Connie took the time to listen, collaborate, and help her child develop strategies for managing overwhelming situations. What began as a challenging school year became a successful second-grade experience, thanks in large part to Connie's patience, encouragement, and individualized support.

Connie's colleagues see that same dedication every day. Courtney describes her counseling lessons as purposeful, engaging, and thoughtfully designed to make important life skills both meaningful and fun. Rachel emphasizes Connie's remarkable ability to create a safe, caring environment where every learner knows they have someone who listens, believes in them, and helps them recognize their own potential.

What makes Connie especially deserving of this recognition is that her influence extends far beyond her counseling office. Whether she's helping a learner work through a difficult moment, partnering with a family, or supporting a colleague, Connie approaches every interaction with compassion, positivity, and a genuine commitment to helping others succeed.

Connie reminds us that educational success isn't measured by academics alone. It's also reflected in the confidence, resilience, relationships, and sense of belonging we help our learners develop along the way.

Congratulations, Connie, on being our November PIES Award recipient!

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

THINK LEARN BE MORE TOGETHER
POCATELLO/CHUBBUCK SCHOOL DISTRICT 25

ACADEMIC STATE CHAMPIONS

Tonight, we are proud to recognize two Highland High School athletic programs for earning 6A Academic State Championship honors from the Idaho High School Activities Association.

- Volleyball – 3.928 Team GPA
- Boys Swimming – 3.772 Team GPA

These awards recognize the varsity team in each classification with the highest cumulative team grade point average, celebrating student-athletes who demonstrate excellence both in the classroom and in competition.

And these achievements are part of an extraordinary districtwide tradition. Since the 2019–2020 school year, PCSD 25 athletic teams have earned 53 Academic State Championship honors across seven school years, including the two championships announced this fall.

Averaging more than seven Academic State Championships annually since the 2019-2020 school year, this record reflects sustained excellence and speaks to the dedication of our learners, the commitment of our coaches and educators, and the support of families who encourage achievement both in the classroom and in competition.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25, congratulations to Highland Volleyball and Boys Swimming on earning these prestigious honors. You represent what it means to Think More. Learn More. Be MORE TOGETHER.





Statewide Honors

Sarah May Clarkson

College and Career Advisor
Highland High School



Higher Education Advocate of the Year

We are pleased to recognize Sarah May Clarkson, who was honored with the Higher Education Advocate of the Year Award at the Idaho Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (IACRAO) Conference in September.

This award recognizes individuals who demonstrate exceptional service, leadership, and a commitment to helping learners navigate their educational opportunities beyond high school.

Honorees are recognized for going above and beyond to simplify the college admissions process, remove barriers, and help learners access the resources and support they need to pursue their postsecondary goals.

Sarah, this recognition is a wonderful reflection of your dedication to helping learners envision and prepare for their futures. Thank you for the important role you play in supporting their success.

Congratulations on this well-deserved statewide recognition!

HIGHLAND

High School Rebuild Committee



As we prepare to celebrate the completion of Phase I of the Highland High School Rebuild Project, we want to take a moment to recognize a remarkable group of individuals whose collaboration helped shape Highland's future. Board Vice Chair Deanna Judy recently reflected on the committee's extraordinary contributions in her article, ***Building Highland's Future, Together***, highlighting the value of bringing diverse perspectives to the table.

In the spring of 2025, the Board of Trustees established the Highland Rebuild Committee, bringing together board members, district and school administrators, teachers, coaches, parents, community representatives, architects, and contractors. Their shared mission was to ensure that Highland would not simply be rebuilt, but thoughtfully designed to serve generations of learners.

This committee went well beyond reviewing blueprints. Members toured other 6A high schools, gathered insights from educators and administrators, and brought forward ideas that meaningfully influenced the final design.

Their recommendations helped shape everything from expanded athletic and performing arts spaces to improved traffic flow, enhanced safety features, and additional classrooms. By bringing diverse perspectives to the table early in the process, the committee helped identify opportunities, anticipate future needs, and make thoughtful improvements while keeping the project below budget.

What makes this effort especially meaningful is the spirit of collaboration behind it. Every member brought something valuable to the conversation, and together, they helped create something greater than any one individual could have alone.

As we prepare to open the doors to this next chapter in Highland's history, we recognize that this project represents more than bricks and mortar. It reflects a community's commitment to its learners, its schools, and its future.

To the members of the Highland Rebuild Committee, thank you for your time, expertise, thoughtful leadership, and dedication to this extraordinary project. Your contributions will make a difference for Highland learners and staff for generations to come.

You have demonstrated what it truly means to be More Together.



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YOU BELONG HERE