



CLARK-PLEASANT EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Quarterly Newsletter



CPEF NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 - NO. 3 - JUNE 27, 2025

CPEF HONORED AT PACERS GAME FOR FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

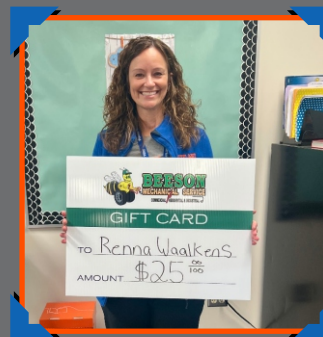
On Thursday, March 20, CPEF had the exciting opportunity to step onto the court during halftime at a Pacers game to accept a generous donation. The funds were raised through a Pacers ticket sales fundraiser and were shared between the foundation and the participating PTOs. Thanks to your support, the campaign brought in a total profit of \$855. A big thank-you to everyone who contributed and made this event a slam dunk success!



WHITELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS OF THE MONTH

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REENA WAALKENS



ALISON GOOTEE



NATHAN KERN



JAMIE HORN

MR. GODSEY WINS 2025 FINE ARTS GRANT

It's Your Lucky Day! Congratulations to Garrett Godsey – 2025 Fine Arts Grant Winner. We're thrilled to announce that Garrett Godsey is the recipient of the 2025 Fine Arts Grant! In his application, Mr. Godsey shared a heartfelt vision: "We need a new piano. Our choir class for students with special needs, called 'Applied Music'—also known as 'Encores'—doesn't get many opportunities to perform. This new piano will enhance our learning and performing opportunities, as it will belong solely to the Encores class. We can even use it to teach students how to play piano!" Mr. Godsey outlined the many meaningful ways this instrument will benefit his students, and we can't wait to see the impact it will have.

Pictured here is Rhythm Masters, the Mixed Varsity Show Choir, who was in class when we surprised Mr. Godsey with the exciting news!



JENNY'S JOURNAL

Embracing Change: A Season of Milestones and New Beginnings

On May 31, my youngest child walked across the stage and graduated from Whiteland Community High School. It was a proud and emotional moment—one that not only marked the end of a chapter for my child, but also for me as a parent. With that single milestone, I realized that many other roles I've cherished over the years were also coming to a close: PTO mom, booster club supporter, dance mom and more.

As I reflect on this transition, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude. All three of my children have journeyed through the Clark-Pleasant school system, and when my husband and I bought our first home in Knollwood Farms more than two decades ago I never could have imagined how this community would shape my family's life—and my career path.

At the end of May, I stepped into a new professional role as Communications Coordinator for Clark-Pleasant Community School Corp. I'm excited to continue serving the community in this new capacity while still supporting the Clark-Pleasant Education foundation, though I will be stepping back from some of my previous responsibilities. I'm grateful to have Tracy Neer stepping up to lead in new ways, and I know the foundation is in good hands.

This professional transition feels, in many ways, like going from high school to college. While I bring years of experience, I'm also learning new systems, adapting to new routines and pushing myself to grow. It's exciting—and yes, a little intimidating. But as I watch my children navigate the path to college and careers, I'm reminded that every step forward, even the uncertain ones, are opportunities to become more of who we're meant to be.



Change is never easy, but it's often the very thing that leads us to where we belong. I'm honored to continue this journey with the Clark-Pleasant family in a new role and look forward to what's ahead—for myself, for my children and for this amazing community we call home.



Jenny Zahm

Jenny Zahm / Clark-Pleasant Education Foundation Executive Director

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

On Thursday, May 8, in celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week, Everwise Credit Union surprised the staff at Whiteland Community High School with a delicious lunch from Chicago's Pizza. We are so grateful for our amazing community partners—and we especially appreciate our dedicated teachers!



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

ALAINA DAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Winners:
Reagan Hill & Lana Johnson

KEVIN STARNES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Freddie Bast

WHITELAND ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Jasmine Sandhu

WHITELAND REMEMBERS OUR CLASSMATES SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Annabelle White

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE
MICHAEL L. MCELWAIN AND DONNA J. (ESTEB) SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Lana Johnson

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE
DOUB FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Gracie Serrano

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE
HAVEMAN FAMILY AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Alexandra Thayer

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE
JERRY LASITER SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Jacob Witherington

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP



Winners:
Espoir Emmanuel & Haroon Mardanzai

SHARON CONNER SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Jacob Witherington

SHARON CONNER AND DR. JAMES SHACKLEFORD SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Lily Donica

JAMES SLEIGHTER SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Gracie Serrano

BUTCH ZIKE SCHOLARSHIP



Winner:
Spencer Gillespie

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL SHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!
GO WARRIORS!

GRANT DOLLARS AT WORK



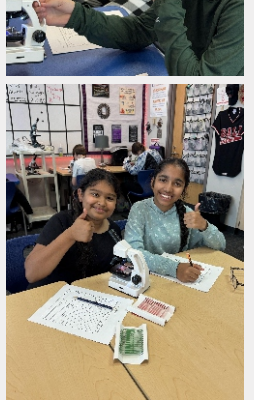
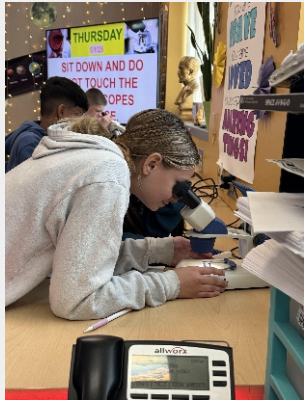
AUTHOR VISIT AT CLARK ELEMENTARY!

On Friday, May 2, our 5th-graders had the exciting opportunity to meet children’s author Shannon Anderson! Students were thrilled to hear about her writing journey and even had the chance to pre-order signed copies of her chapter books. This inspiring experience was made possible thanks to Kelly Roy, who secured a grant from the Clark-Pleasant Education Foundation. One parent shared, “Makenna hasn’t stopped talking about the author meet and greet! Thank you so much for doing this for them. The book sounds like the perfect one for her to read this summer.” Thank you, Shannon Anderson, for sparking a love of reading and writing in our young learners!



A THANK-YOU FROM MRS. EVANS' 6TH GRADE SCIENCE CLASS

Thank you to the Clark-Pleasant Education Foundation for the generous grant that provided our classroom with amazing microscopes and slides. Today, our 6th-grade science students had the incredible opportunity to explore the magnificent microscopic world for the first time. Their excitement and curiosity were evident in their smiles and reactions—it was truly a day of discovery and wonder! We are so grateful for your support in making this experience possible. Thank you again, CPEF, from Mrs. Evans' 6th-grade science classes!



2025 GLITTER AND GRATITUDE GALA

CPEF ATTENDS THE 2ND ANNUAL GLITTER AND GRATITUDE GALA

On Tuesday, April 15, CPEF had the privilege of attending the 2nd annual Glitter and Gratitude Gala, graciously hosted by Beau Jackson and Modern Woodmen. This inspiring event shines a spotlight on the incredible nonprofit leaders of Johnson County, with over 50 organizations represented.

We're truly grateful for the unwavering support of our community—it's what makes events like this so meaningful. One of the highlights of the evening was reconnecting with fellow education foundation directors. While we serve different schools, we share the same mission and passion. Over the years, these connections have grown into lasting friendships, making our work all the more rewarding.



2025 BLUE JEANS BALL

What an unforgettable night we had on Friday, May 16 at our Blue Jeans Ball! A huge THANK-YOU to everyone who made the evening a success—from our incredible vendors to our generous sponsors. Your support helps make events like this possible and meaningful for our community.

Want to relive the fun? Check out the full photo gallery here:
<https://photogbossbabe.passgallery.com/-20250515b.../gallery>
And don't forget to tag @PhotogBoss when you share your favorites!

- Special thanks to our vendors:**
- > DJ: Chris Gordin of T&G Productions
 - > Photographer: Charrie Stambaugh @PhotogBoss of Photog Boss Babe, LLC
 - > Cookies: Handmade by Anne
 - > Decorations: Burlap N' Hope
 - > Gaming: Sertoma Club of Broad Ripple
 - > A huge shoutout to our sponsors—we couldn't have done it without you!

- Event Sponsor:** Lancer and Associates Architecture
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Deaton's



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Honey Grove



2025 LEGACY AWARDS

CELEBRATING LASTING IMPACT / 2025 LEGACY AWARDS HONOR INFLUENTIAL STAFF

Legacy Award Recipients

- Jennifer Accinelli
- Eric Bockelman
- Danni Brayer
- Elizabeth Breidinger
- Katy Briel
- Amanda Coop
- Lucas Corley
- Angela Currier
- Katie DeClercq
- Philip Deiter
- Alison Dugan
- Taylor Elamon
- Justina Flock
- Brooke Fuentes
- Jeremy Gale
- Michael Gillespie
- Garrett Godsey
- Christina Gonzales
- Lesleigh Groce
- Maureen Hoffman-Wehmeier
- Brittany Hogue
- Jennifer Killebrew
- Emily Litsey
- Mizraim Lorenzo-Aguilar
- David Masengale
- Jordan McClain
- Casey Moeller
- Jill Napier
- Shayna Nelson
- Katie Ott
- Sherry Pryor
- Emma Ray
- Brandon Reed
- Tekoa Reighard
- Fern Rohlfs
- Harley Roller
- Peter Sampson
- Maggie Schneider
- Ethan Schreiber
- Justin Schwenk
- Jessica Self
- Jess Spicer
- Cheri Stewart
- Samantha Sturgeon
- Brian VanderVeen
- Elena Vanderveen-Walters
- Stacey Walton
- Kelly Warner
- Grace Wilson
- Tom Zobel
- Mary Zogbi



On Tuesday, May 20, the CPCSC community came together to celebrate the 2025 Legacy Awards—an evening dedicated to recognizing the remarkable individuals who have left a lasting impression on the lives of our graduating seniors.

Held at the CPCSC Administration Building at 7p.m., the ceremony honored staff members from across the district who have made a meaningful difference in students' lives. From custodians and cafeteria workers to coaches, teachers, counselors, bus drivers and administrators, the Legacy Award celebrates any individual whose support, guidance, or encouragement has helped pave the way to graduation.

This year, 51 incredible staff members received Legacy Awards. Each honoree was presented with a certificate and a heartfelt letter written by the student who nominated them—a powerful and personal expression of gratitude. These letters not only captured the impact these staff members have had, but also served as reminders of the deep relationships formed within our schools.

Eleven seniors took the stage during the ceremony to read their letters aloud, sharing stories of mentorship, inspiration and kindness. Our student readers for the evening included: Mia Accinelli, Alexi Fikes, Reagan Hill, Lillian Nick, Jasmine Sandhu, Alexandra Thayer, Kyler Whitted, Emma Spears, Alyssa Gonfiantini and Jonah McIntosh.

Adding to the evening's warmth, A Cup Above generously provided a selection of specialty coffees and teas, while Handmade by Anne delighted guests with beautifully crafted cookies and cupcakes. The event was made possible through the generous sponsorship of Ron Wallman of Horace Mann.

In a touching bonus moment, two additional Legacy Award recipients—our dedicated middle school and high school band directors—were honored during the middle school band concert, which was held at the same time as the ceremony. Students delivered their nomination letters at the concert, ensuring these influential educators received their well-deserved recognition.

The Legacy Awards are a meaningful way for students to say “thank you” to the individuals who have walked alongside them, lifted them up and helped them reach this important milestone. Congratulations to all of our 2025 honorees—and thank you for leaving a legacy that will last far beyond graduation.

EDUCATORS AND ALUMNI

WHITELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS OF THE MONTH

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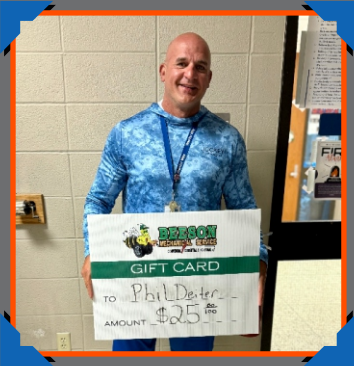
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PHIL DEITER



BRITTANY HOGUE

JUNE

EDUCATORS OF THE MONTH
WHITELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
CONGRATULATIONS!



HANNAH GRIGGS



TEKOA REIGHARD

2025 CLARK HS ALUMNI BANQUET

On Saturday, April 25, I had the honor of attending the final Clark Alumni Banquet—an emotional and beautiful celebration of a school with deep roots and a lasting legacy. Clark High School graduated students from 1898 to 1965, before consolidating with Whiteland to form Clark-Pleasant Community Schools.

This year marked the 60th reunion of the final graduating class of 1965. Of the 122 living alumni, many were in attendance, telling stories and memories that spanned decades. There is still one student from the Class of 1947, Janet Lee Forrell McCarthy, who is still with us.

For the past 30 years, Barbra Evans and Gerald Lindsey have hosted this annual event. Barbra's dedication includes curating and printing a 28-page booklet each year, recording every Clark graduate—honoring those we've lost and celebrating those still with us.

As we close this final chapter, let's congratulate and remember all who walked the halls of Clark High School. What a legacy to be proud of.



RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE WINNERS!



RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE

Recognize Excellence is sponsored by Bailey & Wood. Remember you can recognize someone if you feel like they are doing a fantastic job. Winners are selected from all nominations. It's always a good day to recognize those who go above and beyond for our students.



Congratulations to Michelle Meister, second-grade teacher at Break-O-Day Elementary School! Congratulations Michelle!

RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE



Congratulations to Anthony Hankins, Bus Driver for Clark-Pleasant Transportation Dept. Congratulations Anthony!



Any staff member can be nominated by other staff members or our school community. To quote Bethany Guilfoy, principal at Whiteland Elementary, "At Clark-Pleasant schools, we pay attention to the little things that add up to excellence within our school community. It helps us recognize the great achievements, attitude, and actions from our staff with our students. Thank you to our staff members who have made a positive impact on our students this school year!"



Congratulations to Heather Smarelli, STEM teacher for Whiteland Elementary. Congratulations Heather!

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Sharon Conner on behalf of the Teachers and Staff of Clark-Pleasant Community Schools