

Features



Bernie PAT Students of the Month for January 2018

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Bernie, Missouri - Owen, Elliot, and Adryan are the 2018 Bernie Parents as Teachers Students of the Month.

They are the sons of Chris and Alysia Costin.

Owen Jayce Lewis is four years old and enjoys playing with his brothers, listening to his mom read to him, learning new things, and helping take care of his baby brother.

Elliot Riley Lewis is two years old and really looks up to his older brother. He enjoys dressing up as superheroes, playing outside, and being mischievous.

Adryan James Costin is eight months old and loves to play with his toys, smile, and giggle at everyone and everything. Adryan is currently working on crawling.

Owen, Elliot, and Adryan all enjoy spending time with their oldest brother, Corben, who attends Bernie preschool and is also shown in the photo.

The family's favorite parts of participating in Parents As Teachers is watching the boys enjoy and interact with the new activities they're given and getting to show the new and exciting things they've learned since their last visit with their Parent Educator.

If you would like to know more about Parents as Teachers contact Courtney McGarity or Casey Arnold at 573-293-5335, ext 293 or find them on Facebook by clicking [HERE](#).

The following information was taken directly from the Parent as Teachers Missouri website. For more information click [HERE](#).

Our Vision

All children will learn, grow and develop to realize their full potential.

Our Mission

To provide the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.

Our Values

The early years of a child's life are critical for optimal development and provide the foundation for success in school and in life.

Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers.

Established and emerging research should be the foundation of parent education and family support curricula, training, materials and services.

All young children and their families deserve the same opportunities to succeed, regardless of any demographic, geographic or economic considerations.

An understanding and appreciation of the history and traditions of diverse cultures is essential in serving families.

History

In 1981, Missouri pioneered the concept of helping parents embrace their important role as their child's first and best teacher. Today, Parents as Teachers continues to equip early childhood organizations and professionals with information and tools that are relevant?and widely applicable?to today's parents, families and children.

The Parents as Teachers leadership team and Board of Directors is engaged in a three-year strategic plan, which positions the organization as a valued partner to support the organizations and professionals who serve families and children, especially those most vulnerable.

The concept for Parents as Teachers was developed in the 1970s when Missouri educators noted that children were beginning kindergarten with varying levels of school readiness. Research showed that greater parent involvement is a critical link in the child's development of learning skills, including reading and writing.

Early childhood professionals suggested that a program to provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and parent education to help parents understand their role in encouraging their child's development from the beginning could help improve school readiness and parent involvement.

With funding from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and The Danforth Foundation, Parents as Teachers began in 1981 in Missouri as a pilot project for first-time parents of newborns. Recognizing the program's benefits and cost effectiveness, the Missouri legislature provided state funding in 1985 to implement Parents as Teachers programs in all Missouri school districts. Since 1985, Parents as Teachers has expanded to all 50 states and six other countries.

This article: [Bernie PAT Students of the Month for January 2018](https://showmetimes.com/BerniePAT/Students-of-the-Month-for-January-2018) was first published on <https://showmetimes.com>.

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Date: January 10th 2018



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