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Kindergarten Class Earns 3Rs Flag

MAY 14TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Kindergarten Class Earns 3Rs Flag

Dexter, Missouri - The Kindergarten classroom of Mrs. Jenni Rinehart earned the Southwest Elementary Positive Behavioral Support Reward Flag for April 2018.

School Wide Positive Behavioral Support (SWPBS) award is presented at the start of each month at Southwest Elementary. One classroom in each grade is recognized for exhibiting the high character with regard to observing the school's 3R's.

The 3R's stand for being Respectful, Ready to Learn and Responsible. The class with the highest attendance average, combined with the fewest disciplinary measures and general good character are awarded a 3R red flag to be posted in their classroom for the next month. The students are also awarded "Cat in the Hat" capes to wear and parade around the gym before returning to class. This year's theme is Dr. Seuss!

Back row from left - Jackson Gill, Danny Crotts, Sidney Barr, Tyler Vinson, Payton Cochran, Lareah Sanchez, Weston Jarrell, Raelyn Simptkins, and Rella Mitchell.

Front from left - Luke Eubanks, Sydney Hueckel, McKinlee Graham, Casen Terry, Lynzie Devers, Emberlyn Skiles, Colton Jones, Jaidyn Clark, and Zecoy Oldham.

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SEMO Regents to Consider Tuition, Fees for Fall 2018

MAY 10TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

SEMO Regents to Consider Tuition, Fees for Fall 2018

The Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents will consider a tuition and fee schedule, along with program and special course fees, for fall 2018 when they meet at 9 a.m. May 11 in the Board of Regents Room in Academic Hall.

The meeting will open with swearing-in ceremonies for two new Regents — Tina Klocke of South St. Louis County, Missouri, and Luke LeGrand, student representative from Cape Girardeau. Conducting the swearing-in ceremony will be the Honorable Abbie Crites-Leoni, U.S. Magistrate Judge and president of the Southeast Missouri State University Alumni Association.

The Regents will consider a proposal for major academic reorganization to help meet significant budgetary challenges facing the University. The proposal is the result of

campus-wide discussions, input and open forums during both the fall 2017 and spring 2018 semesters.

In addition, the Regents will consider several academic program changes, including two new programs – a Master of Science in cybersecurity and a Bachelor of Arts with a major in writing and options in creative writing and professional writing. They also will consider changes to the Bachelor of Arts in English.

In other action, the Regents will consider conferring degrees for spring and summer 2018. They also will hear several reports, including the University President’s Report from Dr. Carlos Vargas; reports from incoming Student Government President Matt Rolwing and Outgoing Student Government President Peyton Mogley; reports from Outgoing Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Jim McGill and incoming Faculty Senate Chair Dr. David Powell; a report on contracts and Facilities Management projects from Kathy Mangels, vice president for finance and administration; and a report on Residence Life from Dr. Kendra Skinner, director of Residence Life.

The Regents will consider a motion to go into a closed session for appropriate considerations related to litigation; hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of employees; and personnel records and performance ratings.

When the open session reconvenes, the Regents will announce actions taken during the closed and closed executive sessions. The final item of business will be consideration of a motion to adjourn.

The Board agenda in its entirety can be reviewed at http://www.semo.edu/board/meeting_info.html.

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Rhylan Hillis Selected as DAR Scholarship Recipient

MAY 09TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Rhylan Hillis Selected as DAR Scholarship Recipient

Rhylan Hillis, 2018 graduate of Dexter High School, was the recipient of a Chalk Bluff Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution scholarship.

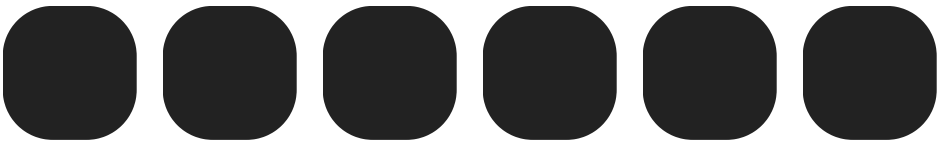
Rhylan is the daughter of Tory Hillis and Darren Hillis of Dexter and a member of the Missouri Bootheel Society Children of the American Revolution.

Pictured with Rylan is Kay Stevenson, Regent, Chalk Bluff Chapter NSDAR

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Meg Simmons Receives Dexter CTA Scholarship

MAY 08TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Meg Simmons Receives Dexter CTA Scholarship

The Dexter CTA is proud to award the 2018 Dexter CTA Scholarship to Miss Meg Simmons of Dexter.

Meg is the daughter of Jonathan and Lara Simmons.

She has participated in football cheer one year, Kickin' Cats four years, and is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Sr. Beta Club, Future Teachers of America, Rotary Interact, DHS Musicals, and the National Honor Society.

Meg has earned All District Choir four years, All State Choir Alternate her junior year, All State Choir Member her senior year, Top 10%, MCDA Honors Choir, and Academic All State Cheerleading in 2017 - 2018.

Her future plans are to attend Harding University and major in Vocal Music Education.

Pictured are DHS senior Meg Simmons and CTA Vice President Corey Bennett.

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Lake Road, Junior High Nationally Recognized

MAY 08TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Lake Road, Junior High Nationally Recognized

Lake Road and Junior High have been selected among only four schools in Missouri and 123 in the United States as national showcase award winners under the Capturing Kids' Hearts, program officials have announced.

“You and your team have created an outstanding environment for students and staff to learn and grow together,” Kelsie Acres of the Flippen Group stated. “During our team’s visit to your school, the positive energy and welcoming tone was evident from the moment they arrived.”

The Texas-based Flippen Group, which administers the professional development, recently scheduled site visits to the nominated schools, interviewing the campus community and gathering quantitative and qualitative data on improvements.

Capturing Kids' Hearts teaches processes in order to increase students' connectedness with both peers and adults on campus, according to a press release from the company. Junior High first piloted the program during the 2013/14 school year. Now a district-wide practice, Lake Road began implementation in 2016.

A repeat national showcase award winner, Junior High shifted its focus this year to building relationship capacity with students, instating kindness week by initiating an Instagram challenge, and creating a shoutout or affirmation wall. The school continues to

offer Teen Leadership I and II as an elective.

“I felt like our teachers have a firm foundation so we thought we’d work with the student body, building on the additional training we have received from the Flippen Group” as a result of this honor, PBJHS Principal Candace Warren commented.

Having achieved gold-level recognition under the school-wide positive behavior support program, Lake Road teaches and reinforces expectations in order to improve student behavior. Office discipline referrals are currently on track to be lower than last year, which was already a hallmark year since starting PBIS. While Lake Road has always had classroom expectations, Principal Erica Weadon said having students actually create their own social contract—one of the tools taught under Capturing Kids’ Hearts—leads to more buy-in.

“I believe it’s helped with our classroom climate, bringing us closer as a community. After you do it so long, it becomes your culture,” Weadon explained. “Now we hold each other accountable for all those [directives] and at some point, you no longer have to hold people accountable—it’s just what they do.”

Pictured: Sean Dunphy, Flippen Group leadership development strategist, observes classrooms and interviews students during a site visit last month at Lake Road.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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