



Moon Area School District

8353 University Boulevard, Moon Township, Pennsylvania 15108

www.masd.k12.pa.us

Amanda Hartle, Public Relations Officer

412-264-9440 ext. 1130

ahartle@masd.k12.pa.us

Moon Area Students Show Holiday Spirit

Across Moon Area School District, various students and student organizations are participating in service activities throughout the holiday season.

- MAHS student Heather DeShantz conducted a Winter Clothing Drive for children at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation as part of her senior project.
- MAMS German students created Gingerbread Houses from scratch that will be displayed in the middle school trophy case throughout the holiday season.
- McCormick Elementary fifth-graders and second-graders learned about Kwanzaa from the parent of a fellow student, who is native to Zimbabwe.
- Allard Elementary put up a Generosity Tree that is covered in small toys, jewelry and other trinkets, which are donated to Ronald McDonald house and area nursing homes through the Coraopolis VFW. This is December's service project at Allard and the elementary school also does service projects every month to promote certain ideals to students.
- Elementary Challenge students raised nearly \$500 for Childrens Hospital of Pittsburgh Free Care Fund caroling in Moon Area neighborhoods. The event is more than 20-year holiday tradition.
- Middle school teams and advisor bases participated in various service projects. Advisor Base 416 collected donations for the no-kill animal shelter Hounds' Haven. The Koala Team collected donations to create 68 holiday bags for senior citizens who utilize the West Hills Food Pantry. Students were responsible for all aspects of the project including shopping, packing and decorating the bags as well as writing letters to each recipient. Eagles team collected donations to buy gifts for a local, needy family. Students shopped and wrapped the gifts. Joe Martonik's and Lisa Griffin's advisor base groups collected used eye glasses and cell phones for the Coraopolis-Moon Township Lions Club. Titan AB classes collected non-perishable food items for the West Hills Food Pantry. The Tornados donated breakfast items and packed 303 bagged breakfasts for students who might not otherwise eat breakfast over winter break to the West Hills Food Party.
- MAMS eighth-graders raised funds for Childrens Hospital of Pittsburgh Free Care Fund through the annual Penny Wars.
- Sixth-Grade Student Council sponsored a toy drive and McCormick Student Council supported the drive.
- McCormick Student Council members visited residents at Brady's Run, where they enjoyed lunched and helped community members view holiday decorations.

- Seventh-grade keyboarding students in Susan McKenna and Marie Lyle's keyboarding classes answered Letters to Santa drafted by first-graders at all five Moon Area elementary schools. Students designed their own letterhead and wrote to every student before mailing the letters.
- Bon Meade third-graders in Karen Bell's class took a December field trip to World Vision to sort, count and pack school supplies which are sent to needy children around the globe.
- Rayvon Kyles and Louis Jaquay, MAHS students, volunteered for Beaver County's Festival of Trees that benefits Beaver County CYC as part of their senior project.
- Middle School National Junior Honor Society helped with the Santa Breakfast at Embassy Suites on Dec. 13. They assisted with children's games, holiday face painting and helping children to sit on Santa's lap.
- Middle school students created bags of reindeer food and reindeer dust for distribution to district elementary students. Sprinkling the food and dust, made up of oatmeal, glitter and colored sprinkles, among other ingredients, could cause Santa Claus to stop in the children's yards.
- Bon Meade third-graders will celebrate Christmas Around the World on Dec. 22. Students will visit Germany, Mexico, Italy and England and learn about those countries' holiday customs.
- Allard first-graders recreated "The Polar Express" after reading the holiday book. They file throughout the elementary school wearing robes and ringing bells looking for the spirit of giving as detailed in the book.
- Hyde kindergartners and fifth-graders partnered to create Holiday dictionaries for the first time. Students listed holiday word for each letter of the alphabet. Each page lists a picture and a definition of the word or a sentence using the word to define it.
- Bon Meade first and second-graders collected blank Christmas cards to send to injured veterans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Students also wrote letters to soldiers thanking them for their service.
- MAHS Key Club members worked the Salvation Army buckets at K-Mart after-school from Dec. 15 – 19.
- Hyde Student Senate conducted a Toys for Tots collection in conjunction with the U.S. Marines.
- Moon Area choral and instrumental ensembles entertained thousands of people through numerous appearances throughout the area. Choral and band companies were asked by special invitation to play and sing at Pittsburgh International Airport, PPG Winter Garden in Downtown Pittsburgh, Bayer Corp. headquarters, Station Square and the Byham Theater among other locations.