

The Voice From Within

December 2019

BAMBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO

Our Focus:
Student Achievement, Accountability, Attendance
Turning It All Around

Dr. Thelma F. Sojourner, Superintendent

www.bamberg2.org

Denmark-Olar Elementary School News

Dr. Lorraine Peeples, Principal

ORIGINAL SIX FOUNDATION



The third graders of Project STREAM's after school program have the opportunity to participate in Nicki Haley's Original Six Foundation, an organization developed to identify and address student academic needs. The foundation has three areas of focus: special projects, literacy programs, and after school programs or Practice Makes Perfect Homework Centers. Our students are fortunate to participate in Practice Makes Perfect. In addition to the experiences offered through 21st Century, third graders receive incentives as a result of working diligently to improve their academic performance. On December 5, Nick Washington, the director of the program, and his colleague showered the third graders with an early Christmas gift which included a year's subscription of a magazine of their choice. Mr. Washington will continue to monitor students' academic progress and provide encouragement and incentives.

MID-YEAR CELEBRATIONS



Project STREAM will host its mid-year celebration on Wednesday, December 18, at 4:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Students will get an opportunity to showcase some of their accomplishments for the first semester. The theme is "Get Lit on Fire for Learning."

DOES will have its annual Christmas program on Thursday, December 19, at 1:00 in the gymnasium.

This year's theme is "Christmas Around the World."

Students will feature traditions from Africa, Jamaica, India, USA, Israel, Philippines, Spain and Russia.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (Feliz Navidad!)



Bamberg School District Two will be closed
December 23, 2019 - January 6, 2020
in observance of the Christmas Holidays.

Schools will be dismissed early on Friday, December 20
according to the following schedule:

Middle School - 11:00 a.m.
Elementary School - 11:15 a.m.
High School - 11:30 a.m.

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday!

STUDENTS of the MONTH December 2019

Congratulations to the following students who were selected Students of the Month at their respective schools and received plaques and certificates from the Board of Trustees and Superintendent during the December 9 Board meeting.



Adreian Prochaska
D-O Elementary School



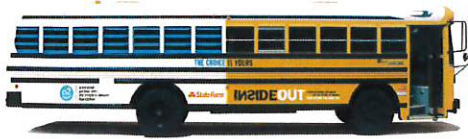
Treasure Washington
D-O Middle School



Imani Williams
D-O High School

Denmark-Olar Middle School News

Mr. Walter Baker, Principal



The **Choice Bus** is an experience-based learning tool designed to show young people the power of education, as well as, the likely consequences of choosing to drop out of school.

The Choice Bus contains a full scale replica of a prison cell which is hidden behind a curtain and flat screen television. Upon entering the bus, a four-minute movie will quiz the audience on the earning potential of a dropout versus a high school and college graduate.

The movie also features several powerful testimonials from people who regret dropping out - prison inmates. When the movie is

finished, the cell is revealed demonstrating the stark reality experienced by many dropouts. Students are then invited into the prison cell to briefly experience the uncomfortable living conditions.

As students exit the bus, they receive a pledge card and are asked to make a commitment to finish school and make good choices. The Choice Bus experience is approximately twenty minutes long and is designed for grades 6-10.

The Choice Bus is sponsored by The Mattie C. Stewart Foundation, a non-profit organization committed to increasing the high school graduation rate. They work diligently to educate, engage, and equip students with tools to impart the importance of obtaining an education. her son Samuel's idea that we can all make a difference, The Foundation is dedicated to reducing the national dropout rate. In creating

tools and resources for educators, community leaders and parents. The Mattie C. Stewart Foundation has developed innovative strategies to more effectively address this issue.

The dropout rate in the U.S. is a national crisis, requiring unconventional approaches for reaching our youth. The Foundation has earned nationwide respect for breakthrough endeavors such as The Choice Bus and the Inside Out documentary. These projects show the dedication of The Foundation to take a unique approach in order to reduce the dropout rate. The Mattie C. Stewart Foundation is committed to working with others to produce the tools and resources that promote graduation.

The Choice Bus visited the middle and high schools recently. A total of 312 students participated in the activity.

Excerpts from Mattie C. Stewart Foundation



Child Find is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that requires states to identify, locate, and evaluate children with disabilities, ages 3-21, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, who may be in need of special education services.

Areas of concern assessed at Child Find include

- Academic Readiness Skills
- Achievement Skills
- Cognitive Ability
- Communication/Speech/Language
- Hearing
- Vision
- Motor Skills
- Social/Emotional and Behavioral Skills
- Daily Living Skills

Screenings will be held January 26-February 1, 2020. For additional information, please contact the Bamberg School District Two Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at 803-793-3346.

DOHS CHESS & DEBATE CLUB PROVIDE CRAFT KITS

DOHS's Chess and Debate Club put together craft kits for in-patient youth during the December meeting. These will be distributed to the Orangeburg RMC and MUSC Children's Hospital. Kit creations were of snowmen/women heads with hats that are made from tongue depressors/craft sticks and other assorted items. They also made ginger bread men/women kits and included color construction paper blanks for creating embellishments on them.

Other kits were made using white paper lunch bags. These kits enable the youth to make a polar bear puppet with pompoms and pipe cleaners to simulate ear muffs as well as items to customize their puppets and make mittens, hats, scarves, etc. All kits included instructions with a picture of a completed item as well as additional items and suggestions for customization. Pupils decided to make most of the craft kits with no holiday theme as the hospitals will be able to be use them throughout the entire winter.

JROTC GIVES TO COMMUNITY FAMILIES

The JROTC Department is very thankful to all who helped make this possible! Our cadets delivered Thanksgiving blessings to 15 families in the Denmark and Olar communities.



Construction Site Update



The school construction and renovations are ongoing. The basketball teams played their first home games in the renovated gym in early December.

Photo by Thompson Turner



Congratulations!

Dr. Teresea Myers

Denmark-Olar High School

Dr. Myers was recognized at the December 9 Board of Trustees meeting and received a certificate and \$25 check.



VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

2019-2020

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>
12/17/2019	6:00	Away**	Wagener-Salley
12/18/2019	6:00	Home	Edisto
12/20/2019	6:00	Away	Bamberg-Ehrhardt
12/26-12/29	TBA	Away	Orangeburg-Wilkinson Sweet 16 Tournament
1/3/2020	6:00	Home**	Blackville-Hilda
1/7/2020	6:00	Home**	Hunter-Kinard-Tyler
1/9/2020	6:00	Away	Edisto
1/10/2020	6:00	Home**	Estill
1/14/2020	6:00	Home**	Williston-Elko
1/17/2020	6:00	Home**	Ridge Spring-Monetta
1/21/2020	6:00	Away**	North
1/24/2020	6:00	Away**	Wagner-Salley
1/28/2020	6:00	Away**	Blackville-Hilda
1/31/2020	6:00	Away**	Hunter-Kinard-Tyler
2/4/2020	6:00	Away**	Estill
2/7/2020	6:00	Away**	Williston-Elko
2/11/2020	6:00	Away**	Ridge Spring-Monetta
2/13/2020	6:00	Home**	North

Announcements and Upcoming Events

BOARD MEETINGS RESCHEDULED

The Bamberg School District Two Board of Trustees will meet as follows:

January 13, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.

February 3, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

March 2, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

The media will be notified of any changes, postponements or cancellations.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO

Please keep your contact information current. Our district uses a "call-out" system to notify families of any school closings or schedule changes. In order to receive these notifications, the district needs your current contact information. Please update your phone number, email and mailing address with your school office.