

Bullpup Bulletin

A.E. Phillips Laboratory School

• Middle School •

January 2023

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



AEP Cheerleaders and Spike at Nationals in Dallas where they placed 5th in the Nation.

We've got it all! A.E. Phillips cheerleaders placed 5th at Nationals. A.E. Phillips Science Olympiad team won multiple awards at an invitational hosted by Louisiana Tech University. State Representative Chirs Turner visited our campus to speak to our 8th graders on Louisiana law. Mrs. Lyndsey Heard accepted the Kiwanis Educator of the Year Award. Middle School Honor Choir standing out at their concert. As one of our teachers at AEP correctly stated, "AEP students got it all!" This is only a FRACTION of the many things that we saw this month at AEP. And yes, I believe A.E. Phillips Middle School does have it all.

Way to go Bullpups! It is truly a great day to be a Middle School Bullpup!

Science Olympiad Makes Waves

This year marks the second year for Mrs. Blount's Science Olympiad Team to compete at an Invitational hosted by Louisiana Tech University. Students were met by numerous teams across the country and exceeded our expectations with several awards.

Mason and Brady - 3rd Place in the Forestry Test
Drake and Krish - 3rd Place in the Road Scholar Test
Souleymane and Kylin - 3rd Place in the Codebuster Test

Wow! Way to go Bullpups!





5th in the Nation

The A.E. Phillips Cheerleaders placed fifth in the nation at the National Cheerleader Association (NCA) High School National Competition on the weekend of January 21, 2023, in Dallas, Texas. It has been many years since A.E. Phillips cheerleaders have competed on the national level, and it was the first time for most of these athletes to ever compete on the national level. We are excited to bring back this tradition!

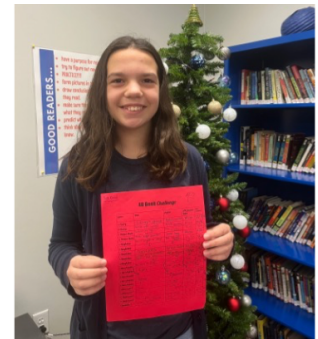
The girls represented our school and community with Bullpup pride! The squad competed in the Game Day Middle School division. This division consists of a choreographed three-minute routine that includes a band chant, cheer, situational chant, and a fight song. The cheerleaders worked tirelessly beginning in October learning and perfecting their routine on afternoons and weekends!

As their coach, I am extremely proud of the teamwork and perseverance they showed throughout the process. Each cheerleader brought so many strengths to their team. They learned the importance of working as a team, how to put the "good" of the team above themselves, and how to personally push themselves to achieve the ultimate goal! I have loved every minute of working with these girls! It means the world to me that our AEP cheerleaders look to one another as "family".

Coach Wynne

40 Book Challenge

Mrs. Kethucm's 40 Book Challenge is an optional opportunity for 6th grade ELA students to sharpen their reading skills and extend their interest in reading through the genres. At the beginning of the school year students are given the challenge to read 40 books including poetry, biography, autobiography, historical fiction, non-fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, and reader's choice. The students have the entire year to complete the challenge. Anna Kate Poe and Ava Good have already completed the challenge! Way to go girls! What a great day to be a Bullpup!



Kiwanis Outstanding Educator of the Year

Our very own Lindsey Heard was awarded the Kiwanis Educator of the Year award. The Kiwanis Club is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. This award was given to Mrs. Heard because of her dedication to children inside and outside the school walls.

I am truly honored to have been chosen as the Kiwanis Club Educator of the Year! This award has been a great reminder of the reason I went into teaching in the first place. Kiwanis Club is passionate about improving the lives of children and making a difference in the community. I have that same purpose and passion as a teacher. I hope to make a difference in the lives around me and inspire students to become the best they can be. I want to be a champion for them and encourage a love of learning and a confidence in who God created them to be.

Mrs. Heard

We are so proud to have you here at AEP, Mrs. Heard. Your hard work and dedication to our student body does not go unnoticed!

What a great day to be a Middle School Bullpup!

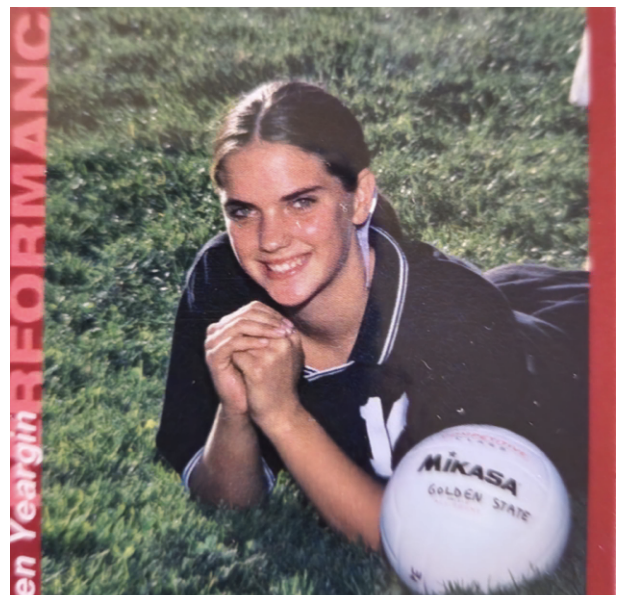


Mrs. Lindsey Heard accepting the Kiwanis Outstanding Educator of the Year Award.

Middle School Teachers in Middle School

It is hard to believe but our A. E. Phillips Middle School teachers were once in Middle School as well. Each month, one Middle School teacher will be featured in our newsletter. Enjoy!

Hint: This teacher loves all things sports and loves math!



Louisiana Law

Louisiana State Representative Chris Turner visited our 8th grade students this month to talk about Louisiana Law. Mr. Turner captivated our students with his stories about his job and his role as State Representative of Louisiana. Students role played and were asked to vote on a bill of their choice. There wasn't a question that wasn't answered by Mr. Turner. Thank you so much for visiting our 8th grade students at AEP Mr. Turner.

What a great day to be a Middle School Bullpup!



State Representative Chirs Turner speaking to the 8th graders on Louisiana law.

Jalapeno Eating Contest

Did you know that Jalapeños have been in space! They were taken on board the Columbia space shuttle in the 1980s and are the only chili pepper to have left Earth. The small lines (scars) that develop on ripe peppers are known as corking and correspond to their heat levels. When they are fully ripe, the chilis turn a bright red.

These are just some of the facts that Emma Roberson shared before some of our brave middle school students competed in the 3rd annual Jalapeno Eating contest. Brennan Jackson took home the 1st Place Jalapeno trophy with 17 Jalapenos eaten! Wow!

What a fun time to be an AEP Middle School Bullpup!

Way to go Brannan!



Brennan Jackson accepting his award for the most Jalapenos eaten

Big/Little Mentor Program

At A.E. Phillips, we feel the school setting is an excellent place to teach our students the art of kindness, consideration and cooperation through a one-on-one student mentoring program. This mentoring program pairs up an 8th grade student with a Kindergarten student. This program started this month with our big and little students sharing popsicles. This was a time to get to know each other and find out their interests, hobbies, and just a little bit of everything. I don't know who is more excited.... the bigs or the littles. Way to go 8th grade Bullpups!



SnapShots

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
HONOR CHOIR**



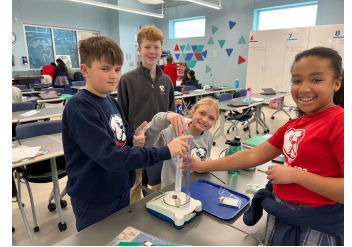
WAY TO HOT!



**CHEERING AT
NATIONALS**



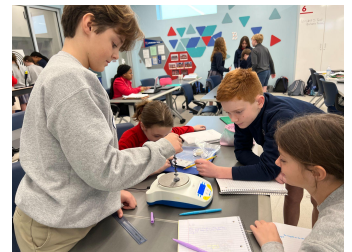
MAGNET LAB



**JUST PLAYING
AROUND**



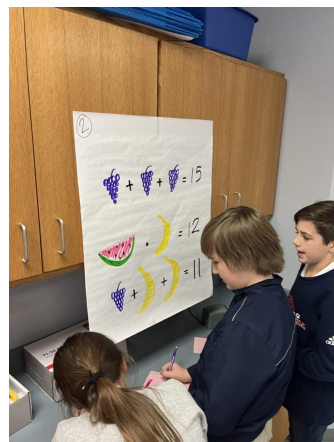
**7TH GRADE WIN
THE COFFEE
TROLLEY**



**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD
@LATECH
INVITATIONAL**



FRUIT & EQUATIONS



**WHOLE
READING**



Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Lindsey Heard

I began teaching 15 years ago as a Spanish and Social Studies teacher at West Monroe High School. I taught there for two years until I was asked to apply at A.E. Phillips, which has been an amazing blessing in my life. When the principal at the time first asked me to consider coming to teach Spanish, all I heard was “teaching on a cart” and teaching “kindergarten.” Those two things were scary for a new teacher who thought she was more comfortable teaching older students than five and six year olds and who very much enjoyed being in an actual classroom! How grateful I am that I decided to push past what I thought I wanted and fears of little kids and carts to be a part of where God was opening doors for me. A.E. Phillips has been a place where God has shown me the absolute blessing of teaching every age and the joy of witnessing growth and learning at every level. I have grown to love those little kindergarteners as well as every single age. It truly is a neat experience to watch kids grow from kindergarten to eighth grade.

I grew up in Shreveport and graduated from Byrd High School where I was involved in many clubs and organizations as well as played softball all four years. I decided to go to Louisiana Tech where I did not immediately decide to go into education, but I knew for sure that I wanted a profession that would make a difference in the lives of others. As a child growing up, I always wanted to “play” school. Besides being outside, playing school was one of my favorite childhood activities. I always loved going to school and learning. I had wonderful, inspiring teachers all throughout my life. I remember one in particular, my sixth grade Social Studies teacher, who was incredibly kind and who “saw” me. I was an extremely shy and quiet student so for her to notice me and care to get to know me was a big deal. It made me love her and her class even more. She is the one who really confirmed for me my desire to teach and hopefully make a difference in someone’s life. My high school Spanish teachers are the ones who inspired a love of learning language and culture for me. My family wanted me to pursue my dreams, but they also wanted me to consider the fact that teaching, being a difficult profession, is also not the most profitable, but after much prayer and thought, I believed God was calling me to it. I double majored in social studies education and Spanish. While at Louisiana Tech, I was able to study abroad in Costa Rica where I lived with a family and went to language classes daily. It was an absolutely amazing experience where I learned a tremendous amount of language and experienced the vibrant culture. I was also able to travel to Spain and live with a family there. I always enjoyed their classes and felt like language came fairly naturally to me. I also earned my Master’s through Louisiana Tech in Education. I specialized in educational technology.



This was when I realized I love to teach Spanish, but I also really just loved to teach and learn many different things. I loved teaching social studies, Spanish, culture, and technology.

Since becoming a teacher, God has opened my eyes to see teaching in new ways including being able to teach His word. He has given me opportunities to teach children, youth, and women through different programs, Bible studies, and events. One of the absolute greatest joys in my more recent years of teaching has been doing a Bible study with our middle school girls. They have taught me so much and brought new life to my “job.” God has shown me that the desire to teach that He created me with was put there by Him from the time I was a little girl, and He has grown it and grown me in ways I could not have imagined. “Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and every!” Ephesians 3:20-21

There have been many ups and downs throughout teaching as with any profession; however, God continues to remind me that it is a gift and a privilege to be entrusted with these incredible students. One of the unexpected blessings is being able to teach my own children. Caroline is in fourth grade, and Savannah is in kindergarten. Caroline is wise and sings like an angel. (I may be partial or envious since being a famous singer was my other career choice.) Savannah is compassionate and protective of those closest to her. I love being at the same school with them and watching them grow and learn. My youngest, John Todd, is two, and he is busy and active and has brought so much joy and laughter to our family. My husband, Richard, is a local home builder who loves the outdoors and sports.

When I am not at school, I absolutely love being outside, whether walking, hiking, occasionally running, riding four wheelers, fishing, water sports at the lake, watching a sunrise or sunset, or just enjoying nature. I also love reading, writing, watching sports, traveling, and sharing meals and time with my family and friends.

I am so deeply grateful to be a part of this AEP family, and I am excited to see what God has in store for me and the rest of us on this journey.

