

A letter from the Superintendent



Dear Friends,

One of the great honors I have as a Camdenton R-III administrator is shaking the hands of new graduates of this wonderful District. On May 21, 2011, the

Camdenton R-III School District held its 80th commencement ceremony. High School diplomas were awarded to 328 students. As you read this newsletter you will learn of the many accomplishments of our students.

The accomplishments of our students are the result of hard work, dedication, and also a system of support for our students. This system of support is evidenced through loving parents and families and dedicated teachers who strive to instill a love of learning within our students. This system of support also includes our larger school community. This year, local individuals, businesses, clubs and civic organizations provided scholarships for our graduates, which totaled \$294,224. We wish to thank these local individuals and groups for their support of our Lakers.

Not only did our students experience incredible accomplishments during this school year, our staff continues to gain accolades as well. Sherry Comer, Director of Afterschool Services, was recently honored in Washington, DC, by receiving the 2011 Afterschool State Champion Award. Sherry was one of ten honorees from across the nation selected to receive the award.

As a District, we welcome Mrs. Selynn Barbour and Mrs. Jackie Schulte to the Camdenton R-III Board of Education. Mrs. Barbour and Mrs. Schulte fill seats vacated by Mrs. Susan Leslie and Mrs. Janny Drover. Mrs. Leslie and Mrs. Drover served our District for 12 years as Board members. Our new members will govern our District so that we will strive to meet our vision of "Everyone Learning Every Day."

In order to meet our vision for the future we must plan for the future. As a District we must continue to raise our student achievement. We must strive to prepare our students to fill occupations that have yet to be invented. We can only do this by providing our students the instructors, the resources, and the facilities they need to be successful.

In our last newsletter, the District shared results from the Patron Insight Survey. As a follow-up to the survey, we wish to continue the two-way communication process initiated by the survey. The District has taken steps to begin a District-level advisory group known as a Patron Panel. This group will meet on a regular basis to provide information and insight regarding how we meet the challenges of the future.

As always, thank you for your support. It is an honor being a Camdenton Laker.

Your Partner in Education,

Timothy Hadfield, Superintendent

"We are extremely proud of the success and achievements of the Class of 2011. Through years of hard work they have attained great successes, and we look forward to even greater accomplishments from them in the future. They have made a significant impact on Camdenton High School, and we wish them the very best in their future endeavors, remarks Mr. Thompson, Principal, and the High School Staff.





Graduation 2011



David Bechtold Building Trades LCTC 15 years Camdenton 27 years in Education



Ted Houx Technical Resource Ed. LCTC 31 years Camdenton 31 years in Education



Richard Smith Physical Ed/Coach High School 4 years Camdenton 28 years in Education



Charles Canfield Chemistry/Science High School 11 years Camdenton 30 years in Education



Diane Lewis Speech/Language Path. Dogwood 1 year Camdenton 32 years in Education



Mary Townsley Gifted Hawthorn 4 years Camdenton 23 years in Education



Linda Cromer Second Grade Dogwood 20 years Camdenton 20 years in Education



Nancy McElyea Kindergarten Dogwood 21 years Camdenton 22 years in Education



Mike Wackerman Industrial Technology Middle School 26 years Camdenton 27 years in Education



Barbara Gryte Counselor/Director High School 10 years Camdenton 17 years in Education



Lee Anna Mitchell Third Grade Osage Beach 16 years Camdenton 17 years in Education



Sue Williams Graphics Technology LCTC 24 years Camdenton 24 years in Education

Outstanding Beginning Teacher



Oak Ridge Intermediate sixth grade teacher Megan Webster was selected as one of Missouri's Outstanding Beginning Teachers. Every two years, the Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education honor

excellent new teachers across the state for their work with Missouri's youth. Her professor from Southeast Missouri State University, Larry Bohannon, Ph.D., contacted Oak Ridge Assistant Principal Christy Page about nominating Webster for this award. Based on his observations and interactions with her, he felt that she was a good candidate to receive the award. Dr. Bohannon used input from Page as part of his nomination. In her recommendation, Page said, "Megan shows great promise of being an outstanding educator. She has a true heart for kids and an outstanding work ethic".

MITCH COMER - TEAM TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Each year, the Technology Education Association of Missouri (TEAM) honors teachers and programs from across the state of Missouri for their outstanding efforts and contributions to their school and students in the field of technology education. This year, Mitch Comer was recognized as the Central District TEAM High School Teacher of the Year. Mr. Comer has 23 years teaching experience and is starting his 16th year at Camdenton High School.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - TANYA ROBINSON



Tanya, pictured center with Superintendent Tim Hadfield and nominating teacher Karin Brambilla who said of Tanya, "... As the workload for teachers increases exponentially, the need for a volunteer to help prepare meaningful experiences for students is essential..."

Retiring 2011

Certified and Classified Staff



Barb Lowtharp Classified Food Service Osage Beach 7 years Camdenton



Bill Sain Classified Transportation District 18 years Camdenton



Nancy Dawson
Classified
Library Para
Middle School
11 years Camdenton



Gwenn McDonald Classified Computer Lab High School 14 years Camdenton



Caroline Sain Classified Food Service Oak Ridge 18 years Camdenton



Danna Hiner Classified Attendance/Work Program Coordinator Horizons 6 years Camdenton



Annette Petersen Classified Nurse Hurricane Deck 12 years Camdenton



Judy Witt Classified Food Service Dogwood 15 years Camdenton

Dave Tyler - Educator of the Year



"I'm always proud to identify myself as an educator. I think teaching is the most important profession because of its impact on individuals and, ultimately, society," states Dave Tyler,

Camdenton R-III School District's Educator of the Year. Tyler currently serves the district as the High School Process Coordinator/Interventions Department Chairman, and was nominated for this honor by his building principal. After thirteen years in the Kansas City area, Tyler has spent the past 24 years at Camdenton. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Education, Master of Science in Education and his Education Specialist all from the University of Central Missouri.

Tyler helped develop the Life Skills program for students at the junior high level (grades 7-9). Later, there was a need for a similar program at the high school, and Tyler was transferred there. The Community Based Instruction class was initiated soon after, allowing students

to be trained for jobs in our community. "The best reward is when there is evidence a student is learning," states Tyler, "and the bar can be raised a little higher." He feels satisfied when students are ready to step into the world of work or pursue additional education.

He sees time management as a personal challenge, but even with the best planning, his days rarely go as planned. Tyler has learned to "expect the unexpected" and is happy to be working with colleagues who work collaboratively to develop and implement strategies to meet all of the challenges of the job. "I'm rewarded by the people I work with every day who work [together] to provide the highest quality education possible for our students," says Tyler.

As a Process Coordinator and building leader, Tyler promotes high expectations and strong student achievement for all students, regardless of ability. By taking advantage of professional development activities provided by the district and outside resources, as well as collaborating with colleagues, he feels this expectation is achievable. Taking an active role in the Building Leadership Team helps provide

research and solutions to problems that impact students and teachers. Tyler leads by example and tries to demonstrate that regardless of experience, teaching requires continuous learning and improvement. "'Everyone Learning Every Day' applies to me and other educators as well as to students. Perhaps the most important strategy I use is to walk in the building with a positive attitude every day. An educator's attitude can make all the difference not only to other colleagues, but also to students," says Tyler. "It affects the entire school community."

Tyler has been married to Geniece for 41 years. Their three children graduated from Camdenton Schools and the University of Missouri: Chad, a regional sales manager for a pharmaceutical company; Jaret, a cardiologist, and Lindsey, a television news director. The Tylers own a small business in Osage Beach. Tyler volunteers on the board of directors at the Lake Area Industries, which provides dignified employment for people with disabilities and serves on the staff/parish relations committee at his church.

2011 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

CONNIE SELBY



Connie Selby, third grade teacher at Hawthorn Elementary, has been chosen as the Camdenton R-III Elementary Teacher of the Year. She has served the children of the district for seventeen years, ten in a first grade position and the past seven in the third grade. A life-long Camden County resident, Selby has served her entire career in our district.

Selby had made up her mind to become a teacher by the third grade, due to the positive influence her teacher had on her. "I wanted to have the same effect on others. I also like to be around young people," she says. "I feel pretty young at heart...I like to laugh and be silly! Life is too short to be sad and boring!" Because the smiles and encouragement from her own teacher affected her, Selby realizes a large part of her job is to help her students feel good about themselves, as well as perform successfully in class.

The District vision statement, "Everyone Learning Every Day" is a driving force in Selby's classroom. She uses it as a reminder to not only her students, but also to herself on a daily basis. She tells her class that they should leave each day having learned something new, and that she, too, learns new things every day. Thinking as a parent has made her a better teacher, she believes, because it makes her include learning and exploration as part of her everyday expectations for her students.

An actively involved educator, Selby has motivated her students in creative ways. She has incorporated many new teaching strategies in her classroom over the past few years. One that she has implemented is a student-guided culminating activity for guided-reading groups - which encourages her class to brainstorm fun and worthy activities to end a book project. Two of the most successful activities this year were a cookie sale to benefit Dogwood Animal Shelter and a movie day at her house. With the help of another district teacher, Selby is in the process of developing "challenges" for her students who have mastered objectives and need enrichment. It is an exciting project, and one that requires much preparation and organization. She sees "great learning" from this project.

Selby feels very rewarded by the teaching profession and firmly believes, "Those Who CAN, Teach." "Where else can I work, where I am greeted daily by twenty-three smiles and countless hugs?" enthuses Selby. One of her favorite moments is when children realize they can do something they didn't think they could. "What greater gift could I ask for?" she says.

Selby earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Drury University with certifications in Elementary Education 1-6 and 7th grade Social Studies. She received her Masters in Guidance and Counseling from Lincoln University. She and her husband, Matt, have been married for 17 years and have three children: Madison (13), Carlee (9), and Austin (4).

BECKI LONG-RUGGLES



Becki Long-Ruggles has been selected as the Secondary Teacher of the Year from a field of outstanding candidates. New to the Camdenton R-III School District, but not new to education, Long-Ruggles serves as the Middle School Guidance Counselor. She has been an educator for 18 years.

Many of Long-Ruggles' teaching strategies are new. She believes the Professional Learning Communities implemented by the District is the best possible program for the students. "I appreciate the collaboration that is encouraged in this District," states Long-Ruggles. She also appreciates the time that is made available for this collaboration. Believing the teaching profession is a wonderful way to make a difference in the world, she finds that teachers make a difference in students' lives every day. "What a blessing to be part of the education system, and to be a witness to young lives as they grow and change and bloom," says Long-Ruggles.

Long-Ruggles finds working one-on-one with students in her job as counselor very rewarding. She finds pleasure in seeing them mature while in Middle School and then to watch them graduate and go out into the world. They "go out into the world and accomplish tremendous feats and then return to tell you about their experiences," says Long-Ruggles. The most difficult part of her job is finding students in heartbreaking life situations that she cannot improve. "I don't understand why life has to be so hard for some children, but it is, and I am thankful that I get the opportunity to at least show the students compassion." She attempts to point them toward a remedy to their situation.

Having earned her undergraduate degree from William Woods University, Long-Ruggles also holds her Masters in Guidance and Counseling from Evangel University. She lives in Richland on her family farm with her husband, LaVan, who is an engineer at Garmin International. Together they have six children: Adam (wife Ashley), Whitni (husband Matt), Courtni, Rebecca, Grant and Mikayla. They have one grandchild, Chesni. They love to work on their farm and float the river in their canoe. They raise cattle and love spending time with their family. "I feel that children have the best opportunity to succeed when teachers and parents are working hand in hand."



Summa Cum Laude 4.2 GPA and higher

Nikki Abbott
Sam AuBuchon
Haley Baker
Elane Bayless
Anthony Black
Alan Bledsoe
Kate Burkhardt
Jacob Byrne
Stephanie Cahail
Caroline Campbell

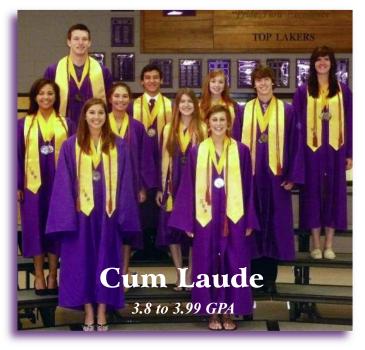
Zachary Castro Sierra Comer Sarah Cunningham Jennifer Ellis Alex Fowler Kristen Fritts Katie Harmon Trevor Hassebroek Johnathon Hueste Nick Huey

ROBERT HUTCHINSON
MORGAN JONES
SAL LA FERLA
MARY LUBER
MOLLIE MILLS
ANNA MORGAN
KARA O'CONNOR
ALEXANDER OWENS
ASHLEIGH PASCHEL
KISHAN PATEL

KRISTI PATRICKUS
BRITTANY QUICK
MYRANDA ROSS
NICOLE SAUER
REBEKAH SHARP
SANDRA SHORE
CAITLIN SHOULTS
BAILEE SLACK
SARA STEFFEN



Adrienne Berkstresser Krista Crockett Michael Dickerson Adam Horman Anthony Lonigro Jordan Mueller Lauren Schwandt Haley Shearer Cayden Shockley Andrea Tinsley Derek van Kluyve JessicaWesterman Taylor Zuraski



BRICE BABBS
MARK BUSCHER
JESSICA BYRNE
JESSICA COLLIVER
VICTORIA ENSINIA
MADISON GROGAN

Katrina Hoyt Tyler Peterson Catherine Standley Sophie Thompson



A+ Scholars

Camdenton High School is one of 364 High Schools in Missouri designated as an A+ School by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The A+ Schools Program was created by state law as an incentive for improving Missouri's high schools. The primary goal of the A+ Schools Program is to ensure that all students who graduate from Missouri high schools are well prepared to pursue advanced education and/or employment.

One of the significant benefits of the program is that a designated A+ School may offer scholarships to students who maintain a minimum of a 2.50 Grade Point Average (GPA), attend school with a 95 percent attendance rate, complete 50 hours of unpaid tutoring and remain a good citizen.

Camdenton High School is pleased to present the following 117 students who qualified for A+ Scholarships, which may provide tuition monies to any Community College or Technical School in Missouri:

Chelsea Adams Caulin Atkins Samuel AuBuchon Marc Barnstable Sabrina Bartley **Elane Bayless Adrienne Berkstresser Kenneth Berry Anthony Black Dalton Blackwell** Alan Bledsoe Michael Bramon **Danyale Bryant** Tamara Bueler Mark Buscher **Stephanie Cahail Shawn Cahail** Levi Calvert Joshua Campbell **Zachary Castro** Jessica Colliver Sierra Comer Larrisa Cook **Kadence Cooney**

Krista Crockett **Madison Cruse** Sarah Cunningham **Emily Dalton** Tiahna Damschen **Justin Daughtrey Michael Dickerson Taylor Dixon Jeffrey Douglas Tommy Eaton** Victoria Ensinia Alex Fowler Megan Frederick **Kristen Fritts Madison Grogan** Katie Harmon **Trevor Hassebroek Emily Herzog Tyler Hills Amanda Himes Andrew Horton Addison Howe Katrina Hoyt** Johnathon Hueste

Nick Huey **Lennon Ivey Tyler James** Krista Kenney **Austin Kensinger** Nicholas Koth Glen Kralina Kali Kuse Sal La Ferla Jeremy Land **Christopher Lapeyre** Morgan Larrington Danielle Leonarduzzi **Ann Letterman Heather Lindsay Anthony Lonigro** Mary Luber Michael McDonald **Gunner McGuire** Megan McKenna **Nathan McKinney** Danielle McManamin **Emily McWhirter** Joseph Medders

Shelby Metzger Mollie Mills Anna Morgan Maggie Morris Alexis Nockunas **Matthew Norris Taylor Owenby Kristina Owens** Ashley Paschel Kishan Patel Kristi Patrickus **Tyler Peterson** William Price **Brittany Quick Christian Rodriguez Myranda Ross** Lori Sansom **Nicole Sauer** Elliot Schmidt Lauren Schwandt **Timothy Scott Cody Sebold** Sandra Shore Mariah Shoults

Scott Skarvan Ginger Smith Mikayla Smith **Catherine Standley** Sara Steffen **Christopher Stout Austin Taylor Dalton Thrower Andrea Tinsley** Derek van Kluyve William Waldon **Haley Walls Dixie Webster Keegan Wessley** Tara West Jessica Westerman Jordan Williams Michelle Williams Tori Williams Michelle Wulle Taylor Zuraski

Army National Guard Scholar Athletes

Haley Baker Cayden Shockley

MILLIONS AWARDED

Camdenton High School held a Senior Scholarship Assembly in the

RC Worthan Auditorium on Friday afternoon, May 13, 2011, where members of the local community, clubs, civic organizations, businesses, and churches gave seniors scholarship monies totaling \$294,224. In addition, colleges and universities provided scholarships totaling \$2,498,608. Military scholarships awarded \$592,444. A+ scholarships honored \$222,798. This generated awards of \$3,608,074 to the graduating *Class of 2011*.

Armed Services

The following students have made a commitment to the United States Military Service:

Naval Academy

Robert Hutchinson

Army National Guard

Jason French Jessica Westerman

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

National Honor Society members must maintain a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.75, complete at least 20 community service hours each year of membership, and earn a minimum number of activity points.

Nikki Abbott Sam Aubuchon **Brice Babbs** Haley Baker **Elane Bayless** Adrienne Berkstresser Alan Bledsoe Kate Burkhardt Mark Buscher Jacob Byrne Jessica Byrne **Stephanie Cahail Caroline Campbell**

Zachary Castro Jessica Colliver Sierra Comer Krista Crockett Sarah Cunningham **Michael Dickerson** Jennifer Ellis Victoria Ensinia **Alex Fowler Kristen Fritts** Katie Harmon Trevor Hassebroek **Addison Howe**

Katrina Hoyt Johnathon Hueste Nick Huev Robert Hutchinson Morgan Jones Sal La Ferla **Anthony Lonigro Mary Luber Emily McWhirter Mollie Mills** Anna Morgan Maggie Morris Jordan Mueller

Kara O'Connor Luke Parker **Ashleigh Paschel Kishan Patel** Kristi Patrickus **Tyler Peterson Brittany Quick Myranda Ross Nicole Sauer Lauren Schwandt** Rebekah Sharp **Cayden Shockley** Sandra Shore



Mariah Shoults Bailee Slack Catherine Standley Sara Steffen Sophie Thompson **Andrea Tinsley** Derek van Kluyve Jessica Westerman Taylor Zuraski

President's Education Award

The President's selection criteria for this award include a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, and a score at or above the 85th percentile in reading or math on a test such as the ACT.

Nikki Abbott **Elane Bayless Anthony Black** Alan Bledsoe Kate Burkhardt Jacob Byrne Stephanie Cahail Zach Castro

Sierra Comer Sarah Cunningham **Michael Dickerson** Jennifer Ellis Alex Fowler **Kristen Fritts Katie Harmon** Trevor Hassebroek

Adam Horman **Addison Howe Nick Huev Robert Hutchinson Anthony Lonigro Mary Luber Mollie Mills** Anna Morgan

Kara O'Connor **Alex Owens** Luke Parker Kishan Patel Kristi Patrickus Erica Rodriguez Myranda Ross Nicole Sauer

Cody Sebold Rebekah Sharp **Haley Shearer Cayden Shockley** Sandra Shore **Bailee Slack Andrea Tinsley**



Skills USA NATIONAL SKILLS USA

Three students at Lake Career & Technical Center qualify to attend the National SkillsUSA Contest in Kansas City, MO, June 20-25, 2011. The students achieved this honor by placing first at the State SkillsUSA contest. Earl Nolan, a student in the Marine Service Technology Adult program, qualified to compete in the Marine Service Technology contest. Jonathan James, a junior at CHS and enrolled in the Computer Repair & Networking class at LCTC, will



Jonathan James



Earl Nolan & Christian Rodriguez

compete in Residential Systems Installation & Maintenance. Christian Rodriguez is a senior at Camdenton High School and is enrolled in the Smart Home & Tech Mechatronics at LCTC. He will compete in the Telecommunications Cabling contest.

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. More than 15,000 people including students, teachers, and business partners - participate in the week-long national competition.

Students work against the clock and each other, proving their expertise in occupations like electronics, computer-aided drafting, precision machining, medical assisting and culinary arts. Contests are run with the help of industry, trade associations, and labor organizations. Test competencies are set by industry.

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International Baccalaureate Students Graduate

Students earning the IB Diploma completed rigorous coursework in six subject areas, wrote a 4,000 word extended essay, fulfilled 150 hours of CAS (Creativity, Action, and Service), and completed a course called Theory of Knowledge.

IB Diploma candidates are:

Nikki Abbott Katie Harmon Kishan Patel Alan Bledsoe Robert Hutchinson Kristi Patrickus

Jennifer Ellis Kara O'Connor



IB Certificate students are:

Sam AuBuchonJohnathon HuesteLevi McDonaldZoe BibbesNick HueyAnna MorganCaroline CampbellLennon IveyRebekah SharpSierra ComerBill KoncenBailee SlackTommy EatonMary LuberSara Steffen

Students may also earn International Baccalaureate certificates by taking courses in individual IB subjects.



Missouri Bright Flight Scholars



Camdenton High School continues the tradition of recognizing several Missouri Bright Flight Scholars. To be recognized as a Bright Flight Scholar, students must be a Missouri resident enrolled as a full-time student at an approved Missouri post-secondary institution and achieve the qualifying score as set by the Missouri Department of Higher Education on the ACT or SAT. To qualify, students graduating in the class of 2011 must score in the top 5% of all Missouri students taking those tests.

Stephanie Cahail Jennifer Ellis Nick Huey Robert Hutchinson Ann Letterman Mollie Mills Anna Morgan Maggie Morris Kara O'Connor Luke Parker Kishan Patel Rebekah Sharp Bailee Slack Sara Steffen William Waldon

ROBERT HUTCHINSON RECEIVES TOP HONORS

MISSOURI SCHOLARS ACADEMY

Robert Hutchinson attended the Missouri Scholars Academy in June 2009. This elite academy is a three-week program designed for students who are ready to begin their junior year in high school. Approximately 330 of Missouri's gifted students were accepted into this program. School districts that nominate students for the academy are required to provide detailed information about their nominees to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which then makes its selection based on specific criteria.



MISSOURI SCHOLARS 100

Robert Hutchinson has been selected as the recipient of the 2011 Missouri Scholars 100 program. Each year, the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals recognizes 100 of Missouri's top scholars for this honor. Students are selected from graduating classes state-wide based on a ten-event academic decathlon, which includes grade point average, ACT/SAT scores, activities, advanced classes, leadership, and community service.

Ozark Conference All-Academic

Girls' Track Katie Burkhardt Courtney Foulk Rachel Harmon Kelli Montgomery **Tennis** Alex Fowler

Connor Burton

Golf Kevin Bird Jacob Dittman Andrew Shannon **Boys' Track** Justin Bernabe **Bobby Johnson** Murphy Ward

Girls' Soccer Nicole Duncan Morgan Henry McKenzi Huey Grace Scheidemantle Miriam Taylor Megan Weber

Baseball

Dylan Hymes

Cory Simpson

Jake Ikerd

Criteria require athletes to earn a varsity letter and a 3.85 to 4.0 GPA on a non-weighted scale.

> **Baseball** Jordan Muff Jacob Voorhees



Emily Collum State Qualifier - High Jump



Ozark Conference All-Academic Honorable Mention

Girls' Track Kaslyn Alexander Kali Crockett Judy Keys Colleen Magelky Malory Stone Sara Wages Abby Williams

Boys' Track Kemper Virtue Logan Whittmore

Tennis Sam AuBuchon

Criteria require athletes to earn a varsity letter and a 3.5 to 3.84 GPA on a non-weighted scale.

Girls' Soccer Tyler Cunningham Haley Baker Robbie Hoffman Jessica Colliver Allison Halderman Mackenzie Manzer Ashley Paschel Sandra Shore Whitney Snow



District Champions

"This was a big win for the team and for the program in general. This is something we dreamed about happening back in 1998 when the program started and to see things finally come to fruition has been a very special experience. This team has been working incredibly hard and they decided a while back, as a team, to make this year a special one. They are just a wonderful group of athletes and it was a privilege to be around them this season," celebrates Coach JD Hunter. For highlights, visit: www.ladylakersoccer.com

Scholar ATHLETE Awards

Caulin Atkins Sam AuBuchon **Brice Babbs** Haley Baker Katie Burkhardt Jeron Sinclair Mark Buscher Jacob Byrne Stephanie Cahail Spencer Carlock Jessica Colliver Sierra Comer Will Corliss **Emily Dalton** Tiahna Damschen **Taylor Dixon Adam Eaton** Alex Fowler Trevor Hassebroek **Adam Horman Nick Huey Lennon Ivey Morgan Jones** Kali Kuse Salvatore La Ferla Morgan Larrington Levi McDonald

Michael McDonald **Shelby Metzger** Jordan Mueller **Matt Norris Alex Owens Ashleigh Paschel Tyler Peterson** Erica Rodriguez Eli Schmidt **Lauren Schwandt TJ Scott Cayden Shockley** Sandra Shore **Bailee Slack Catherine Standley Chris Sullens Sophie Thompson** Alex Uberroth Derek van Kluyve **Dixie Webster** Jessica Westerman



Missouri Afterschool Director Sherry Comer Honored as an Afterschool Champion in Nation's Capital

The Afterschool Alliance honored Sherry Comer, Afterschool Services Director for the Camdenton R-III Schools in Camdenton, Missouri, for her support for afterschool programs at the "Breakfast of Champions," a gala event in Washington, D.C., featuring *FIRST* Robotics founder Dean Kamen. Comer has been a leader for afterschool in Missouri and worked tirelessly to educate policy makers about the important role that afterschool programs play in educating children about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Comer was one of just nine state champions from around the country honored at the breakfast for supporting and working on behalf of afterschool programs. The Missouri AfterSchool Network nominated her for the honor. Comer served as the chair of the Missouri AfterSchool Network for three years, while also acting as

an Afterschool Alliance Afterschool Ambassador. increasing support for afterschool programs in Missouri among the public and policy makers. As the Afterschool Services Director for Camdenton R-III Schools, she strongly supports and oversees the school district's FIRST Robotics team, LASER 3284, and has accompanied many students to the state capitol to talk to policy makers about how important afterschool programs are in improving STEM education. "Sherry understands how important afterschool programs are, not only to children and families, but

Will S Aran State of State of

FIRST Founder and famous inventor Dean Kamen, Kyle Gulshen, the event by FIRST mentors and Sierra Comer and Sherry Comer. the NOYCE foundation.

to our communities and our society as a whole," said Teresa Foulkes, Director of the Missouri AfterSchool Network. "She also recognizes that these programs can play a unique role in getting our youth excited about and engaged in the sciences and math, and has helped champion the FIRST Robotics program in the Camdenton school district as an excellent vehicle for helping educate a generation that can excel in these fields."

The "Breakfast of Champions" is part of the tenth annual Afterschool for All Challenge, sponsored by the Afterschool Alliance, which brings together hundreds of parents, educators, children, program directors and advocates from around the country for a series of events and meetings with members of Congress. Following the Breakfast, participants fanned out across Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress and talk to them about the importance of afterschool programs and expanding opportunities for kids to engage in STEM activities in those programs.

This year is The Year of Science in Afterschool. "Afterschool programs are a lifeline for working families, they keep kids safe and - most important - inspire them to learn. These programs are uniquely positioned to provide hands-on and real-world STEM learning opportunities," said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. "It's no secret that our nation has some serious catching-up to do when it comes to math and the sciences. We know that afterschool programs are successful in getting children excited about science. By offering children the opportunity to try robotics, CSI, rocket-building, or constructing wind turbines, afterschool programs are developing future computer programmers, forensic scientists, and engineers."

Accompanying Mrs. Comer on her trip were two members of

the LASER robotics team, sophomore Kyle Gulshen and senior Sierra Comer. Gulshen represented the youth of our country and received a standing ovation after delivering his speech about what the afterschool program had given him through his participation in FIRST robotics. Sierra Comer helped to lead youth advocacy group meetings and greeted Senators and other award winners. Both students were selected to present awards to senators and other influential leaders from our nation. Gulshen and Comer were selected to attend the NOYCE foundation.

Also honored at the event was inventor Dean Kamen, the founder of *FIRST* robotics. Both Kyle and Sierra were seated with Mr. Kamen and got to visit with him about the impact that *FIRST* has had on their education and future career plans. After the "Breakfast of Champions", the students and Mrs. Comer visited Capitol Hill where they meet with Senator Blunt and numerous State Representatives to promote afterschool programs.

Mrs. Comer stated, "I am honored to represent all of the hard work that numerous Camdenton R-III staff members have put into our afterschool program. Over 70 teachers and support staff work in the Camdenton afterschool program. Our team works hard to link project-based activities to district curriculum and state standards while inspiring learning and increasing academic achievement. This award is because of their hard work and many other individuals in Missouri who work tirelessly to provide quality afterschool programs for the youth of our state."



Laker Afterschool Science Engineering and Robotics

The Camdenton High School 4-H LASER (Laker Afterschool Science Engineering & Robotics) team built upon last year's rookie Cinderella season and found even more success and accolades this year. The high school 4-H LASER team experienced huge growth, increasing the membership by 150% and doubling the number of adult mentors working with the team. The 4-H LASER family grew even more as the afterschool program added robotics teams at the Middle School and Oak Ridge Intermediate this school year. Additional programs are being planned at Osage Beach and Hurricane Deck Elementary schools for next year.

An important aspect of being on the High School LASER team is the requirement to mentor younger students and teach them about "Gracious Professionalism" and "Coopertition". These are concepts that teach students how important it is to help your fellow teammates and even members of other teams.

This year's 4-H LASER team competed in two of the 49 FIRST (For Inspiration in Robotics, Science, and Technology) regional competitions held around the world. FIRST, founded by Dean Kamen, was started 20 years ago to encourage students to embrace education in

the STEM areas and to challenge themselves with a more rigorous course selection in school. *FIRST* robotics now serves more than 250,000 students from 61 countries.

The Greater Kansas City regional competition was held March 10 -12 at Hale Arena. Competing with 56 other teams from the Midwest, the 4-H LASER team finished second with alliance teams from Barstow and Blue Springs. This provided experience for the team as they traveled to St. Louis the following week. There, the team made an impressive showing by winning the event with alliance members from Hazelwood Central and University City high schools. The team was also recognized for receiving the "Quality Award", sponsored by Motorola, and the "Industrial Safety Award", sponsored by Underwriters Laboratory.

The team won the regional competition in St. Louis, qualifying them to attend the World Championship that took place this year in St. Louis. The 4-H LASER team represented the Camdenton R-III School District with pride and perseverance in true Laker fashion. While at the world finals,

the team met teams

from many countries around the world, visited Scholarship Row and met with professors and students from various colleges, including MIT, Purdue, Missouri Science and Technology, and University of Missouri Engineering. Students were also able to visit booths and speak to

members of NASA, the CIA, Boeing and numerous other agencies and businesses. The United States Air Force had working robots on display, as did the CIA and many other federal agencies.

Dennis Harmon from AT&T mentors

members of the drive team, Connor Brady

and Kyle Gulshen

At the World Championship, seniors Stephanie Cahail and Sierra Comer were awarded *FIRST* scholarships to the University of Missouri and University of Missouri Science



and Technology, respectively, where they will attend in the fall of 2011.

This summer, high school team members will start work for next season. If you have technical skills or an engineering background and would like more information on becoming a mentor, contact Sherry Comer, Afterschool Services Director, at 346-9233. More information about the robotics team can be found at the District website, www.camdentonschools.org (Afterschool Services).

The team is sponsored by Camdenton R-III Afterschool Services through the 21st CCLC afterschool grant, 4-H, Speedline Technologies, Lake Professional Engineering, AT&T and the Camdenton Optimist Club.

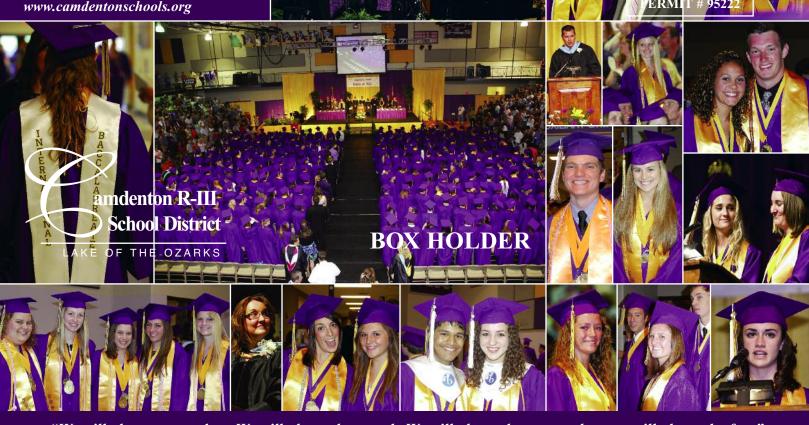


Brandon Kapp, Mitch Woodside, Blake Barbour and Stephanie McQueen celebrate winning the St. Louis Regional Championship.

Camdenton R-III School District PO Box 1409 Camdenton, Missouri 65020

additional graduation photos at: www.camdentonschools.org





"We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." -- Ronald Reagan



OSTAGE

STUDENTS ATTEND INTEL INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR



Representing our District Bailee Slack



Finalist Nick Huey receives international second place award.

Camdenton R-III High School students Bailee Slack and Nick Huey were selected to represent our District's science fair competition in an international science fair. They competed against over 1,600 students from nearly 60 countries worldwide in 17 different categories. This year's International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) was held in Los Angeles, CA. As a result of this international competition, Nick Huey was nominated as a finalist to visit CERN's Large Hadron Particle Accelerator near Geneva. Switzerland for a week. An even larger award was given to Nick when he was awarded 2nd place in his category. By receiving a 2nd place award, Nick was given \$2,000 cash and will be given the honor of having a minor planet in the main asteroid belt named after him. This is different from those commercial 'star-naming' gimmicks and will be forever named after Nick.



Although the Camdenton High School region is only allowed two students as

representatives, Jacob Byrne and Kishan Patel also attended ISEF as observers. While in LA, all four students from the Camdenton School District who

attended had the opportunity to visit with Bill Nye the Science Guy and several Nobel Laureates. They also were able to see presentations from Jeffrey Katzenberg, CEO of DreamWorks Animation, and Will.I.Am from the Black Eyed Peas. Students were also given exclusive access to Universal Studios for one evening. The theme park was opened, free of charge, exclusively for ISEF attendees. Rides such as 'The Mummy', 'The Simpson's', 'King Kong 3-D', and 'Shrek' were provided - with no lines! as well as all food. Students were also given exclusive access to Club Nokia, LA Live, and ESPN ZONE.

Camdenton High School science teacher and science research team sponsor Chris Reeves summarized, "Looking back, this has been quite a successful year! Many thank yous go to everyone who provided assistance to participating students this year, including all teachers and administrators at CHS."