APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF



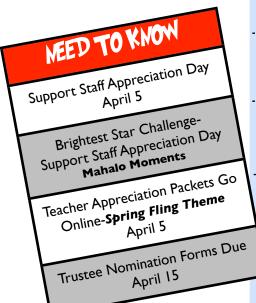
### Catch the wave of appreciation

Smell the salty sea and feel the ocean breeze as you get ready for a tropical good time with Support Staff Appreciation Day on April 5.

Your students will enjoy using a Hawaiian theme to celebrate and honor those people who fill the support roles in their schools. From leis of appreciation to luau lunches, the thanks will be memorable for these important staff folks.

Remember that 'mahalo' means thanks in Hawaii so give the Mahalo Moments

activity your best effort and your A team could win the Brightest Star challenge and \$100. Aloha-Oy!!





Special Services Appreciation

Day Celebrations:

Carter County
Hawkins County
Jackson County
Johnson County
Sumner County
Wilson County



Be a Fan---of
Phanfare

Catch the Wave of Appreciation



Survey Says

Benefits of Membership

\$1000 Could Show A Lot of Appreciation!



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#### SPECIAL SERVICES APPRECIATION DAY CELEBRATIONS

The evidence clearly shows the Special Services Staff is vital to the growth and development of students. The schools that participated in the appreciation day made their staff feel loved, valued and appreciated during their special day. Well done, students and coordinators.

It's elementary my dear Watson the Special Services Staff in Hawkins County felt appreciated during their day.

**Clinch School** sent the staff on a scavenger hunt to find their goodies.

Mt. Carmel Elementary gave each of their staff a booklet of handwritten notes from the students and a sworn affidavit as a keepsake telling the staff how much they are valued at the school.

**Keplar Elementary** asked the entire school to dress like spies and presented handmade cards to the staff from the students.

Pathways Alternative, as always, did a great job recreating the artwork to promote appreciation around the school for these employees.

Rogersville Middle School made a beautiful homemade cake using the mystery theme.

**Volunteer High School** provided a yummy lunch for their staff.

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#### SPECIAL SERVICES APPRECIATION DAY CELEBRATIONS

It is no mystery **Hampton Elementary** and **Hampton High School** in Carter County had a great day celebrating their Special Services Staff. They provided great pictures of posters and festivities happening in both schools.

**Mountain City Elementary** in Johnson County celebrated their nurse and counselor by giving them something we all enjoy...sweets!

In Wilson County, it's not puzzling at all to see that **Gladeville Elementary** went all out providing their staff with thank you cards and a luncheon.

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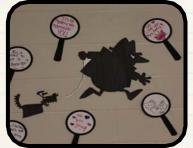


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#### SPECIAL SERVICES APPRECIATION DAY CELEBRATIONS



The winner of the Brightest Star Challenge went to **Dodson Branch Elementary** for their rapping rendition of the Mystery Song-Cardboard Lyrics. \$100 goes to their A-Team for winning the challenge. Way to go, Jackson County! Click here to see the video.



Knox Doss at Drakes Creek
Middle School celebrated their
special services staff by decorating
doors and a hallway, getting their
student body to write messages of
thanks and binding them in a keepsake
book, giving them a goody bag filled
with yummy treats and enlisting
community involvement through a
local church to provide a meal.
Librarian Mrs. Hardaway said this
about the day, "This program is great,
every school should be doing this."



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### \$1,000 Gould Show A Lot of Appreciation!

Be sure to enter your Employee Appreciation Program in the Best Overall Contest and you could win \$1000!!!

The self <u>nominating form</u> is simple to use and the deadline to get your entry in is June 15, 2012.



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### Survey Says

Thank you to those who completed our survey! If you haven't had a chance to let us know what you think, click here to go to the survey for the system coordinator and here for the school coordinator.

Each month, we will address some questions or issues that we found in your survey responses each month. Did you know?

The EAP activities are designed to be led by the A-Team and to involve other volunteers and should not interfere with teachers' instructional time.

Watch for more tips and suggestions throughout

the packets for other ways to have successful appreciation days using volunteers.

Related arts teachers such as music, art or PE, are willing and able to help with certain activities as a part of their normal curriculum so don't overlook enlisting their support when possible.

There are also some teachers who volunteer their students to lead in different activities, so be willing to use them as a resource when available.

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### Be a Fan--of Phanfare

In our ongoing dedication to making the EAP simple and easy to use, we have set up a site on Phanfare. This new process is a quick and easy way for you to upload your videos and pictures. This is vital for encouraging and promoting the program and also to put you in the position to win serious cash!



With a few clicks, you can post your best videos and pictures for all to see. Click <u>here</u> to see Phanfare and get started letting us know how creative and special your appreciation days are. It won't take long for you to be a fan.

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### Benefits of Membership

Have you ever considered the benefits of being a member of Utrust? Did you know that school systems who belong have saved over \$1 million dollars in the last three years? Unemployment claims have risen drastically over the past several years. Members have been faced with many obstacles such as budget crisis, expiration of the stimulus package and weather related absences.

However, because Utrust bases premiums on the past four and a half years of claims for each system, members have not experienced the huge and unbudgeted increases in their budget for unemployment benefits that other school systems have experienced.

As a member of Utrust, school systems have the added benefit of knowing what their unemployment premiums are going to be for the upcoming fiscal year because the trustees determine those costs in April before the start of the next school year. The premiums are set so that members do not experience large swings in cost from one year to the next.

Utrust is the best unemployment trust in the nation and we are committed to keeping it that way while helping schools appreciate, develop and support their employees.



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