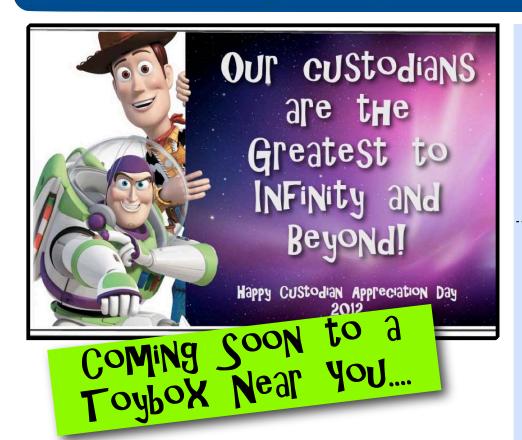
APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF



Dust off your favorite toys and get ready. Custodian Appreciation Day is just around the corner and we are using a Toy Story theme to celebrate these special folks. October 25th is the designated day so check out the packets online, enlist any community support you can and get started.

You can find some helpful ideas on our Thursday Tips for some of the suggested activities to make your custodians feel extra special on their day. As Woody & Buzz might say "Reach for the sky" and let's make this appreciation day the best "to infinity and beyond"!!







Do It Write
Now!

Membership
Appreciation Dinner





Brightest Star Winners



APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF



Now is the time to promote the Utrust Make a Difference Writing Competition. This program offers the

opportunity to let the world know about someone who has made a difference and earn the author cash prizes.

The competition is divided into an adult division and a student division. Each essay must be in a school setting and feature how a school employee has gone above and beyond to become a difference maker.

Prizes will be awarded to the top stories in each

division with three winners on the adult level and fourteen on the student level.

Consider how your school can increase the number and quality of your entries. You may want to enlist your English teachers to use the contest as part of their class curriculum or even as a writing prompt.

Winners will receive cash prizes and will be the subject of press releases for your local newspaper.

Bus Driver Appreciation Day Celebrations

Bells Benton County Grainger County Hawkins County Jackson County Sumner County Trousdale County

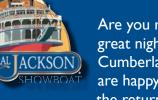
Do It Write Now

Membership Appreciation Dinner

> Brightest Star Winners

Coming Soon to a Toybox Near You...





Are you ready for a great night on the Cumberland River? We are happy to announce the return of a member favorite. This year's Utrust Member

Appreciation Dinner will be held aboard the General Jackson on November 4th.

Make plans now to join us for fantastic food, great fellowship, excellent entertainment and even more. Click here to register and we look forward to seeing you there.

October 2012 Edition

News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Bus Driver Appreciation Day Celebrations

If Bus Driver Appreciation Day is any indication of the success of the Employee Appreciation Program (EAP) across the State of Tennessee, then the 2012-13 school year will be the best yet. It was great to experience all the fun festivities for the bus drivers through the photos and videos uploaded in phanfare.

Come along on a "Road Trip" as we take a "rest stop" at all the schools that participated in the first appreciation day.

Bells City School District is out first stop. They honored their drivers with a thank you banner and goodie buckets. One of the bus drivers, Mrs. Fallon Estes, wrote a note to

say thank you to the students for making her feel so special. The students in **Grainger**

County showed their drivers appreciation by presenting them with gift cards, notes and various gifts of appreciation. The morning of the appreciation day, they greeted

with
appreciation
banners
as they
entered the
school
grounds.

their drivers

Bus Driver
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Celebrations

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APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Bus Driver Appreciation Day Celebrations

Benton County did an awesome job showing appreciation to all their drivers. All the schools sent in Smileboxes made in honor of their drivers showing the pictures of activities that took place in their schools.

Briarwood School made bright posters, dressed up in construction costumes and made a "Top 10 Reasons We Love Our Drivers" poster.

Students at **Camden Elementary School** made cards, had a Rest Area with goodies and even performed "Wheels on the Bus" for their drivers. **Big Sandy School** made adorable hand-sanitizer bottles, each class had a "meet and greet" with the drivers. Even the older students participated in all the day's

activities. Students at **Camden Central High School** made adorable goodie bags with goodies and special notes written by the students.

Holladay School made a poster promising no gum on the bus and the day was featured in the local newspaper.

Camden Junior High
School did a fantastic job
appreciating their drivers. They
treated them to an "extra pay
day" (candy bar), made roadside
signs and gave free hugs to their
bus drivers. To cap the day off,
Buster the Bus made an
appearance at the schools
reminding the students how to
act on the bus and led the
teachers in a fun dance.

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Bus Driver Appreciation Day Celebrations

The A-Teams in Sumner County did an outstanding job appreciating their drivers.

At **Knox Doss Middle School**, the students created a fun atmosphere at the Rest Stop greeting the drivers with bright posters, waves and smiles, adorable decoupaged goodie buckets with items donated by

people in the community.

Students prepared messages of thanks to go to each bus driver sharing how much they are appreciated. A-team members conducted interviews asking students fun questions about their bus drivers.

Smileboxes were made by members of the A-Team and given to the drivers as a keepsake of the day. Everyone

felt blessed to be a part of the celebration.

In fact, several bus drivers came to the office and shared how much they enjoyed what the students had done for them.

At **Beech Elementary School**, the A-Team students worked in pairs making sure every detail was perfect for their Bus Driver Day. The morning of the celebration, students greeted the drivers with student-made posters and goodies. The local church provided a delicious breakfast for the drivers. The A-Team students.... Even the bus drivers brought their own cameras and took pictures of the festivities and the students. Everyone loved being there.

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Bus Driver Appreciation Day Celebrations

As we continue on our trip, we must take a detour through Hawkins County. They did a marvelous job appreciating their drivers.

At **Mt. Carmel Elementary**, they presented the bus drivers with a "tool kit", student-colored poster cards, a yummy M&M poem, a beautiful Heroes poem and hand-sanitizer bottles to take care of any germs on their road trip.

Church Hill Intermediate handed out goodie bags with thank you notes on the front, student-drawn posters and banner and an adorable board with thank you notes from the students.

Joseph Rogers Primary made adorable signs to promote Bus Driver Appreciation Day at their school. The A-Team at St. Clair Elementary made a thank you banner, handed out goodie buckets and even celebrated "Happy Lawnmower Man Day" on the same day!

Bull's Gap made a thank you banner and goodies for their drivers. The students at **McPheeter's Bend** worked hard on their fabulous handpainted signs.

Carter's Valley Elementary made a great thank you banner for their drivers coming up to the school building and passed out goodie bags.

The A-Team at **Cherokee High School** made a banner, handed out customized hand-sanitizer bottles and made an awesome "Bus Talk" video. Check it out in the Hawkins County album in www.phanfare.com.

Volunteer High School had a great day celebrating their drivers. And Pathways Alternative School had a buffet for their drivers and the students created hand-drawn signs to honor their drivers.

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Bus Driver Appreciation Day Celebrations

In Jackson County, **Dodson Branch Elementary** served breakfast and listened to stories each of the drivers shared.

Two A-Team members performed a song for their drivers. Their paparazzi team interviewed a few of the students and asked some questions about the drivers.

Jennifer Brown, the school coordinator said, "The A-Team and Paparazzi really enjoyed being apart of showing how much they appreciate our wonderful bus drivers!"

Our final stop is **Trousdale County Elementary**. They made posters, greeted each driver with a goodie bag designed by A-Team students with breakfast sandwiches, trail

mix bar, an apple, peanut butter crackers and water. Clint Satterfield, the Superintendent, and Donna Burris, the System Coordinator, gave each driver a thank you note for their hard work and dedication. The students made an effort to also greet the Special Education drivers to make them feel appreciated.

What a great success we had across the State for Bus Driver Appreciation Day. We hope you are excited about the upcoming appreciation day festivities. We can't wait to see what you do for your staff members. Keep uploading your photos/videos to www.phanfare.com.

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BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY BRIGHTEST STAR WINNERS

AND THE WINNERS ARE:

Mt. Carmel Elementary
School in Hawkins County for sending 10 photos or less of their fantastic appreciation day activities including the bus driver "tool kits", a Hero poem presented to each driver and bright posters colored by the students. Click here to see album.

Briarwood School in Benton
County for the best story told
through a Smilebox with pictures of
the poster "Top 10 Reasons We Love
Our Bus Drivers", students dressed in
construction costumes and yellow
showing support for the drivers, a
great Rest Stop and bright, fun
posters. Click here to view.

Congratulations to **Camden Junior High School** in Benton

County, the winner of middle and high school division of Brightest Star. The students treated their drivers to an "extra pay day" candy bar, roadside signs to greet them on their journey, handmade cards created by the students, and free hugs for the drivers to show them how much they are valued and appreciated. Click here to see their smilebox.





