



ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

2010-2011 School Year

(as of April 12, 2011)

The Thompson Education Foundation awarded Creativity Grants to teachers and other professional staff for new, innovative projects to enhance the learning experience of students in the Thompson School District. Four grants were awarded for the 2010-2011 school year totaling \$3,948.

Scott Burke, one of the teachers who designed the Geometry in Construction classes at Loveland High School, was named Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year. He received the award from the Colorado Association of Career and Technical Educators at the Embassy Suites in Loveland.

Kris Ayers, Thompson Valley High School physical education teacher, received the Colorado High School Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award for 2010 from the Colorado Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. This award signifies the recognition of the high quality of teaching and leadership Ayers demonstrates each day. The award was presented to Ayers at the COAHPERD State Convention at the Embassy Suites in Loveland in October.

Thompson Valley High School senior Dorian Brown, widely recognized as one of the best running backs in the state, was nominated as a candidate to play in the prestigious Army All-American high school football game in San Antonio, Texas.

The Mountain View High School baseball team won the 2010 State Championship.

The Loveland High School Wind Symphony, under the direction of Matthew Arau and Aaron Vogel, was one of three high school concert bands in the state invited to perform at the Colorado Music Educators Association annual conference in Colorado Springs in January.

Nine 2010 district graduates from three high schools received Robert C. Byrd Scholarships through the Colorado Department of Education. The students were: Bree Gardner, Megan Kellums and Jordan Packham from Loveland High School; Emily Hessel, Emma Howard, Calandria Puntteney and Kevyn Young from Thompson Valley High School; and Sarah Kemp and Lizzy Rivera from Berthoud High School. The Byrd Scholarship is a federally funded program that promotes student excellence and achievement and recognizes exceptionally able students who show promise of continued academic excellence.

Two district seniors were named National Merit semifinalists: Calvin Deutschbein from Loveland High School and Conrad I. Shock from Mountain View High School. They are among some 16,000 semifinalists up for 8,400 scholarships.

The TV Singers Show Choir from Thompson Valley High School was selected to perform at the Budweiser Events Center. They sang with the 1980's band Foreigner on a song for the Improv on Ice event.

Twenty-five students from Mountain View High School, 47 students from Thompson Valley High School, and 79 students from Loveland High School earned Advanced Placement Scholar awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

Five Loveland High School students earned International Baccalaureate certificates in specific content areas, and 90 percent of LHS's diploma candidates earned the IB Diploma.

Seven students from Loveland High School – David Bocek, Zachary Henderson, Megan Lins, Michael Moy, Sally Runions, Mikayla Springob, and Curtis Walker – and two students from Mountain View High School – Rebecca Torrey and Justin Cochran – were named National Merit Commended Students. Commended Students are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. They placed among the top 5 percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2011 competition by taking the 2009 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Berthoud, Loveland and Thompson Valley high schools all won awards at the Northern Regional band championships at Ray Patterson Field in October. The LHS Crimson Regiment placed first in the 4-A competition; the TVHS Eagle Band placed second in 4-A; and the BHS Spartan Band received the award for most improved from last year's score in 2-A competition. BHS placed fourth in 1-A and 2-A.

The Loveland High School Crimson Regiment Marching Band placed second at the state competition with a score of 86.95.

Jorge Garcia, Early Language Acquisition administrator, received the President's Award from the Colorado Association for Bilingual Education in Denver. The annual state award recognizes an individual who, over time, has demonstrated leadership, commitment and a passion for working with English language learners and their families.

Colorado Connections for Healthy Schools and the Colorado Legacy Foundation presented B. F. Kitchen Elementary School with \$1,000 toward Health and Wellness in November. BFK was one of 15 schools around the state to be named a Healthy School Champion.

Loveland High School student Jamie Felton was selected as Miss Loveland Valentine in November by community judges through the Loveland Chamber of Commerce.

The Thompson Valley High School Volleyball team won their first Northern Conference championship and the No. 1 ranking in the state.

Wendy Thompson, Girls Gymnastics coach at Loveland High School, was selected as Front Range Conference Coach of the year.

The JROTC, comprised of students from Thompson School District high schools, won the "Honor Unit with Distinction" by scoring 97.9 percent. This placed them in the top 8 percent of all Army JROTC programs nationally.

The Thompson Valley Boys Cross Country team won the regional championship and the Girls Cross Country team finished third. The boys placed second and the girls fourth in the state meet.

Mountain View High School student Conrad Shock was named a semifinalist for the Boettcher Scholarship. This is a four-year, full-ride scholarship to any in-state post-secondary institution.

Kris Ayers, Thompson Valley High School, was the recipient of the 2011 Central District Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award. Earlier this year, she was named Colorado P.E. teacher of the year and moved on to the regional award. She received the award in February at the Central District Convention award dinner in Rapid City, S.D.

The district celebrated its 50th anniversary of the district being reorganized into R2-J.

Two TVHS students competed in a national arts competition as a result of their honors at the Colorado Scholastics Art and Writing Awards. Molly Markow received a Gold Key Fine Arts Portfolio award and Haley Dukart received a Gold Key Individual Work award. Selected Gold Key works were displayed at the Denver Art Museum in February after being displayed at the Rocky Mountain School of Art and Design in January.

Big Thompson Elementary School of Nature and Science received a Larimer County 2010 Environmental Stewardship Award in December. This award honors the staff, students, and partnering organizations that have invested in Big Thompson Elementary to accomplish a remarkable amount in a very short time.

Thompson Valley High School students Shelby Perrin, Automotive Technology, and Jonathan Braaten, Carpentry-Home Framing, were selected for the Student of Merit award for fall semester in their high school programs at Front Range Community College.

Walt Clark Middle School FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Team 7822 won the Regional Champion's Award, the highest award of the regional (Colorado, Wyoming) championship at Denver East High School in December. This was the only FLL team from this region invited to advance to the 2011 FLL World Festival in St. Louis, Mo.

Loveland High students Ian Cook and Harry Houlton placed first in the state for their PSA video entry in French at the advanced level focusing on healthy eating habits. This video contest is sponsored by the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers.

Bariyah Lee, a junior at Loveland High School, was named Loveland's Youth of the Year at the Loveland Boys & Girls Club, putting her in consideration for Larimer County Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year.

Berthoud High School students Cameron Botts and Jordan Buchhoz in the Thompson River Project class were among the top 10 finalists in the Caring for Our Watershed contest in which more than 200 students from Greeley, Fort Collins and Berthoud were competing for over \$3,000 in cash rewards for themselves plus money for their school. They did a five-minute presentation for a panel of judges in February at the UNC University Center.

Mountain View High School received the Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) designation during a special ceremony at the American School Counselor Association's annual conference in Seattle, Wash. In June, MVHS will be honored for making an exemplary commitment to comprehensive school counseling programs. MVHS is only the fifth high school in Colorado to earn this honor. The counselors at MVHS are Jennifer Brownhill, Donovan Dreyer, Samantha Havigland, Jennifer Smela, and Linda Videll.

A team of Berthoud Elementary 4th grade students, coached by Debbie Rude, won highest honors in the WordMasters Challenge, a national language arts competition entered by approximately 220,000 students annually which consists of three separate meets held in intervals during the school year. These students tied for 7th place in the nation in the year's first meet, held in December, among 694 school teams competing at this grade level and in this division. Fourth grader Stuart Reckase earned a perfect score in the meet – in the entire country, only 47 4th graders did so.

Several students/schools participated in the Colorado VEX Robotics championship at Berthoud High School in February. A middle school team, Berthoud Community Team 974, won Tournament Finalist along with their alliance partners, 1520A CasaVEX from Casa Esperanza in Longmont and 2167 Vextes Robotics from Estes Park. Team 974 also won the middle school Excellence Award, earning a spot to the VEX World Championship in Orlando, Fla., in April. Chase Rayment from Bill Reed Middle School, Mark Stewart from Walt Clark Middle School, and Zac Marquardt from Turner Middle School were team members on this middle school team that bested many high school teams for the Tournament Finalist award. Other Thompson School District teams winning awards were the BHS Team 1069, Cyber Domination, winning the Judge's Award and BHS Team 1069B, Schattengeist, winning Robot Skills second place. Berthoud has three teams that have earned invitations to compete at Worlds.

Conrad Ball, Lucile Erwin, Turner and Walt Clark middle schools each had teams participating in the middle school MathCounts competition in February at Walt Clark Middle School. The individual results were: 1st, Lauren Howard, WCMS; 2nd, Amber Wiens, WCMS; 3rd, Sean Jordan, TMS; and 4th, Gabriel Vigil, TMS.

Michelle Malvey, Response to Instruction/Intervention coordinator, wrote an article that will be published nationwide via the National Center for Learning Disabilities publication Voices in the Field. Malvey has been recognized nationally for her work in RtI by various organizations.

Thompson Valley High School teacher Kris Ayers was honored as the Central District High School Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education at its national convention in San Diego, Calif. The Central District represents a nine-state area from Colorado to Minnesota. The award is given in recognition of outstanding teaching performance at the high school level and the ability to motivate today's youth to participate in a lifetime of physical activity.

B. F. Kitchen was presented with the USDA Gold of Distinction Award in March for meeting the HealthierUS School Challenge school meal criteria. It was the first school in the state to earn the prestigious award. The school earned a monetary prize of \$2,000. The award was presented by Darlene Barnes, regional administrator for the USDA's Food and Nutrition Services Mountain Plains Region.

Fifteen Thompson teams scored in the top four places in their division for their problem at the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition at Berthoud High School and were invited to advance to the state tournament in April.

The Colorado Department of Education recognized Ivy Stockwell Elementary as one of the 8 percent of public schools that demonstrate the highest rates of student longitudinal growth, as measured by the Colorado Growth Model. The school earned the Colorado Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award.

The Loveland High School Color Guard took first place at the Rocky Mountain Color Guard State Championships in March. The Color Guard scored an 85.4 in the Scholastic A classification. They won every caption as well.

Diane Lauer, director of Curriculum and Instruction, was selected as the 2011 College of Education and Behavioral Science Graduate Scholar by the faculty of the Education Leadership Policy Studies at the University of Northern Colorado. She was honored for her scholarly efforts and contributions to the field in April.

The Loveland High School Ocean Bowl team placed third in the regional Ocean Bowl competition in February. The students received backpacks full of prizes and a plaque. Members of the LHS Ocean Bowl team were Kahleah Walker, Dalton Meyer, Gavin Stewart, and Tim Buckley. Their sponsor was Darlene Halvorsen. The National Ocean Sciences Bowl is an academic competition that tests high school students' knowledge of the marine sciences, including biology, chemistry, physics and geology.

Staff members Toni Theisen, Marcy Cochran and Dawn Fertitta were selected by the Colorado Department of Education to participate in a statewide discussion regarding the conceptual connections within the new Colorado Academic Standards in the content areas of world languages, music, physical education and comprehensive health education.

Truscott Elementary School's Odyssey of the Mind team, coached by Marty Janssen, placed first in Division I, Problem #2 ("As Good as Gold...Berg") in the state competition. The team placed first in all three portions of the competition (long-term problem, style, and spontaneous). The team is eligible to compete in the World Finals in May at the University of Maryland in College Park, Md.

Martha Gustafson, principal at Walt Clark Middle School, was named Colorado Middle School Principal of the Year by the Colorado Association of School Executives in April.

Ferguson High School teacher Cathy Beach received a \$500 Spring 2011 Outreach Award to support her effort of making science more fun and engaging for students. The award was given by the Biological Sciences Initiative Staff at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Scott Burke was named Regional Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year. Scott is a Geometry in Construction teacher at Loveland High School. Earlier this school year, he was named state Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year. He is one of five regional winners to be considered for the national title.