
MEMO

TO: BLUE RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MR. RYAN PEYTON, SUPERINTENDENT

FROM: SUNNY MCMURRY, PRINCIPAL, RUTH M. SCHNEIDER ELEMENTARY

DATE: 9/6/26

RE: SEPTEMBER 2026 PRINCIPAL REPORT

Exemplary Knights

This month, we are celebrating the following students as our Schneider Exemplary Knights!

Kindergarten: Danny Floyd, nominated by Lindsay Wilkinson

Danny comes to class ready to learn each day. He has a smile on his face and is always willing to help out with anything we need. He is kind to others, includes friends when they are sad or feeling lonely and has a positive outlook on the day even when times get tough. Danny tries his hardest to produce his best work and will always ask for help when needed. He is a great example to others when it comes to classroom rules as well. Danny listens, follows directions and stays on task despite many disruptions in class. I am so proud of Danny and can't wait to see where he goes in his educational journey!

First Grade: Ellie Cheatham, nominated by Emma McKeon

Ellie is a wonderful student who is always ready to learn and actively participates in class. She works hard, follows directions, and asks thoughtful questions. Ellie sets a great example for others and is always sure to include her classmates. She doesn't give up when things are challenging and demonstrates a strong growth mindset by wanting to learn and improve. Her positive attitude, kindness, perseverance, and enthusiasm for learning make her a joy to have in the classroom. Keep up the great work, Ellie!

Second Grade: McKenzie Hoffman, nominated by Saddle Acton

Mckenzie Hoffman is a kind, caring, and incredibly hardworking student who is a wonderful example of what it means to be an Exemplary Knight. McKenzie is being considered for this award because she comes to class each day ready to learn with a positive attitude and a willingness to do her very best. She is responsible, respectful, and always puts great effort into her work. Mckenzie is also a thoughtful classmate who treats others with kindness and is always willing to lend a helping hand. Her positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning make our classroom a better place. She is an absolute joy to have in class, and I am so excited to continue watching her grow, learn, and shine throughout the rest of the school year!

Third Grade: Lilyana Teubel, nominated by Kristin Wilkinson

I am nominating Lilyana Teubel for Exemplary Knight. Lilyana is a model student. She comes to class each day ready to learn. She participates in whole class lessons, small groups, and with partners. She is

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always willing to help adults and other students. She loves to be challenged by new topics and does not give up when things get hard. Her bright smile makes everyone feel welcome in our classroom and school. She is a leader and I can't wait to see what she does this school year.

Congratulations to these amazing students!

Our **Exemplary Knights Staff Member** this month is **Mrs. Charity Nadrozny**.

Charity always goes above and beyond for her students and coworkers. She always greets everyone with a smile and positive attitude. She has been very dedicated to learning and implementing our new reading curriculum as well as making it fun and engaging for her students. Charity always looks for fun and unique opportunities for her students, such as special field trips and activities with high school students. She helps students set their own learning goals and track their growth toward their goals, while constantly encouraging them along the way. Charity is a great educator all around and we are SO lucky to have her at Schneider!

PBIS

PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. We use this system to create a safe, supportive environment at Schneider. PBIS shifts the focus away from punishment for misbehavior and instead focuses on teaching what good behavior looks like and celebrating when students do it right. We have used PBIS for many years, but we have noticed that there are not many staff who were originally trained are no longer at Schneider. Our PBIS team will partner with ROE 17 to be trained in PBIS in order to better implement this system into our school. We will attend multiple workshops throughout the year to be sure our systems are strong in order to support student behavior.

Instruction

Our grade level collaboration meetings have begun. During the first round of meetings, celebrated student successes, made a plan for data collection and discussed fall assessment plans.

Our fall diagnostic testing wrapped up September 11. This year, we are using iReady to gather diagnostic data, as well as a dyslexia screener and our beginning of year assessments from our new curriculum to add to our understanding of how students are doing academically. On September 23, we will work in grade level teams to look at all of this data for each student to determine where we can best differentiate learning as a grade level, as well as both support or extend learning for individual students.

Pre-K

We hosted our first Growing Together Event on Thursday, August 27 at our new Schneider playground. Thank you to Mrs. Amy Brock for her organization of such a fun event!

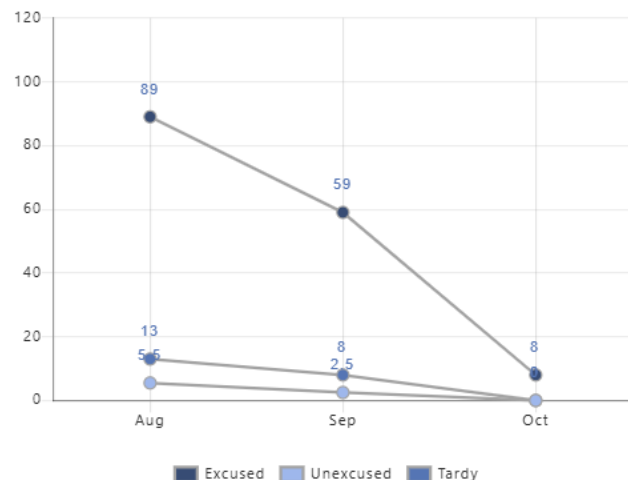
We look forward to connecting with our community on September 16 as we host another Pre-K screening event. Anyone interested in attending the screening should contact Schneider to be added to our schedule.

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We are accepting three and four year old students. Children must be three years old on or before the screening date. We will hold multiple screenings throughout the school year.

Attendance Incentives

One of our goals this year is to continue to aim for 95% average daily attendance. We will be providing various incentives throughout the school year for students and families who are making school attendance a priority. We will also track attendance and provide interventions for students who are at risk of chronic absenteeism. This graph shows our attendance rates so far this school year. We will continue to monitor this!



P.I.E. and Knight Walk

WOW! Our community raised over \$12,000 to support Schneider Elementary through donations for our Knight Walk. **Thank you!!** Our Knight Walk will take place on Friday, October 2 with a pep rally and celebration, followed by a ribbon cutting for our new playground. We will begin around 2 pm in the Moore Gym, then have a walk around the track, followed by popsicles on the Schneider playground and ribbon cutting ceremony. money can participate in the event. All families and community members are welcome to cheer on the walkers- feel free to sit in the bleachers or line the track. The rough schedule is below:

2:00pm Schneider K - 3 students walk over to the Moore Gym

2:05pm Mrs. McMurphy announces the results, congratulates students

2:15pm BRHS Cheer Team and BRHS Band

2:20pm Students exit the gym and go to the track. Complete 1 lap.

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2:30pm Students transition from the track back to Schneider playground for popsicles and playground ribbon cutting.

2:40 Play and music celebration on the playground

Slides, A Race Track and Tetherball- Oh My!

Our Schneider students absolutely love and are so grateful for our playground makeover! We cannot wait to formally introduce it during our **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** following our Knight Walk on October 2. Please plan to join us on the playground around 2:30!



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Upcoming Events:

9/18- Progress reports released

9/25- Homecoming Parade; Dismissal 2:20 pm

October

10/1- PreK Growing Together, 5:30 p.m

10/2- Knight Walk and Pep Rally, Playground Ribbon Cutting

10/7,8- Schneider Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30-6:45 p.m.

10/9- Teacher Institute – NO SCHOOL

10/12- Columbus Day – NO SCHOOL

10/19- P.I.E. Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

10/21-1:30 Early Dismissal, NO PRE-K