

**Meaningful Messages at River Valley Academy ALC**

Michelle Gruber, HR Administrative Assistant, has a creative side that ensures the River Valley Academy students are greeted with meaningful messages. One example is shown here. Besides these creative bulletin board messages, Michelle has decorated the reception area with seasonal arrays that bring cheer and create a welcoming atmosphere to everyone who enters our educational space. Thank you to Michelle for her extra efforts and contributions to our school.

**Wendy Haake, MN Bike & Walk Award Nominee**

Congratulations to Wendy Haake, SAIL Teacher, who was nominated for a 2024 MN Bike & Walk Award!

Winners were announced [on our website link here](#)

Educator of the Year (Individual): Bryan Kallevig

Other nominees included Cristina Montoya, Wendy Haake, and Zach Jones.

Educator of the Year (School or Organization):**Congdon Park Elementary**

Other nominees included Wendy Haake, Huellas Latinas, and Longfellow Elementary.

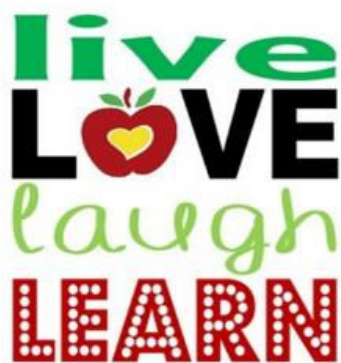


The BikeMN Board of Directors thank you again for

all you do to make Minnesota a better place to Bike, Walk & Roll. Information has been provided by Ted Duepner, Operations & Supporter Relations Manager| LCI

Making Minnesota a place where every person everywhere can easily walk, bike, and roll.

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**Adult Learning Sessions in 2025 Sponsored by SEAC. Register today!**

The HVED Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) committee members have organized free virtual learning opportunities for all adults throughout HVED—parents, grandparents, guardians, and staff are all welcome and invited to enroll. Classes are limited with minimum and maximum participation. Did I say free? Yes, this course is free and can guarantee added value to your varied experiences with students (your child/ren) at all ages and in all stages of development. For those in the education field, continuing education units (CEUs) will be offered. Registration remains open for **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** starting in April. Check out the details at this link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MkZdZgIJ_GTdkZOpJDC3DRNxW3p9xnO_/view?pli=1

HVED Connects

Each month on the third Tuesday at 7:45 AM HVED staff log into a zoom meeting for up to 30 minutes for an opportunity to connect with one another. The agenda is open for any staff to contribute information or announcements that benefit all or most of the staff. This month the meeting was rescheduled to Friday, February 21 due to a weather-related closure on February 18. I asked for contributions for my monthly Executive Director Highlights that would recognize any HVED program, service, or activity to share with a broader audience across HVED. This month, the offer was accepted by Lori Pagel, Work-based Learning Coordinator for Plainview-Elgin-Millville, Dover-Eyota, Chatfield, St. Charles, Lewiston-Altura, Lanesboro, and HVED's River Valley Academy ALC in Winona. The recognition goes to three students in Chatfield who completed a very successful service-learning project. Congratulations to all! Details on page 2.



*Thank
you*



Linens and Love For Our Friends

Service Learning Project through HVED Work Experience

Boston, William, and Gage would like to thank you for your support in their service learning project this year. Their goal was to raise 200 items for Dorothy Day House and Paws and Claws. They were able to collect 226 total items with 179 items going to Dorothy Day House and 47 items going to Paws and Claws.



Thank you for your generosity and support through this project. It was a learning experience!



Warming our friends one
blanket or towel at a time.