



Update from the Superintendent

To: Parents and Guardians
From: Bill Husfelt, Superintendent
Date: November 12, 2021

This week, while also recognizing our dedicated veterans and amazing Top Five Finalists for Teacher of the Year and Support Employee of the Year, we're kicking off a new recognition program that we really hope you will help us with.

Not a day goes by that I don't hear from a parent, or grandparent, who wants to keep me updated on the achievements of one of our graduates. I love getting those updates and it's truly incredible to hear about the ways in which our graduates are impacting the world around them and making this a better place for all of us. So I've been thinking for a while about how I could share those stories with everyone because we can always use some good news in our lives.

With that in mind, we've developed a new program. Our #AwesomeAlumni program is designed to recognize graduates of Bay District Schools who have gone on to accomplish great things in their communities. We're looking for those graduates who are the helpers, the hometown heroes, the leaders of today and tomorrow and those who are genuinely making a difference in the lives of others. Yes, we want to hear about our graduates who are serving our country, those who are entrepreneurs and award-winning leaders in their various fields but we also want to hear about our hometown heroes ... the graduates who are working quietly behind the scenes to help our community and the communities in which they live.

This is a perfect chance for moms, dads and grandparents to brag. We hope to be INUNDATED with nominees and their stories and we hope those stories motivate our current students and give our community yet one more reason to be proud of our graduates, our educators and our schools.

You can nominate someone for this honor (and you can nominate yourself if applicable) by filling out our google doc which you can find at <https://forms.gle/o4uZKejHvgAwNPi29>. The form is also located on our website under "Community Updates" and on our social media pages. Please complete the process by sending a photo of your nominee to BDScomm@bay.k12.fl.us or make sure you give us contact information for your nominee so we can secure a photo ourselves.

We are VERY excited to read these nominations and to start sharing them with our community. We plan to start our weekly #AwesomeAlumni posts in January so definitely keep an eye out for those. In the meantime, please send us your nominations.

You will note that the nomination form asks for not only the name of the school from which the nominee graduated but also for other BDS schools the nominee attended. It's important for the community to recognize that success in high school really begins in pre-kindergarten and that ALL of our teachers at ALL levels are pouring their hearts into our students to ensure they are as successful as possible. Graduation ceremonies are a great time for students to give "shout outs" to those educators who have

inspired them but I think we can take that one step further by sharing our #AwesomeAlumni stories of success.

Thank you, in advance, for taking this project on and for helping us recognize our #AwesomeAlumni. I can't wait to read their stories and to share them with our #Community.

Stay safe and God Bless.

