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David Roth, Ph.D., Superintendent - Buckeye Union School District Douglas Shupe, Principal • Melinda Spooner, Assistant Principal http://buckeyeusd.org/csms

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Happy New Year!

Our 8th Grade Community Project is off and running. We've started "light" to help the students get more familiar with the expectations. The biggest ah-ha is that this is more than just volunteering with an organization for a cause. The Community Project is an opportunity for students to notice a need, be creative and come up with ways to meet/fill the need, take action, and then reflect on their success.

Some of our projects thus far have been:

Raising a Therapy Dog

Jamerada Springs Middle

- Raising Swine
- Planning and Organizing Therapy Dog visits at area hospitals
- Shoe Drive Fundraiser to benefit Maui residents
- Halloween Costume Drive to be given to patients at Shriners Hospital
- Advocacy Project to raise awareness about Shriners Hospital
- Creating Booths for Blue Oak and Buckeye Harvest Festivals
- Coaching students and organizing a Track Meet
- Small Skills group for Volleyball Team
- Organizing activities for local retirement home
- Skill Group Coaching for sports at Blue Oak
- Winter Blanket Drive
- New Year's Night Out
- Toys for Upper Room Christmas Celebration

There is another great opportunity coming up where students can help fill a need, the BUSD Heritage Festival. The Coordinator is looking for committee volunteers to help plan the event (yes, being a part of the planning process counts as a Community Project). She is also looking for volunteers to organize a booth to showcase their heritage through food, art, clothing, etc. The BUSD Heritage Festival will take place this year on March 13th so students have plenty of time to plan. If this is something your 8th grader would be interested in doing for their Community Project, please contact Annie Muse-Fisher at: <a href="mailto:annemusefisher@buckeyeusd.org">annemusefisher@buckeyeusd.org</a>.

We are excited to see our students giving back to local communities!

Douglas Shupe, Principal

Melinda Spooner, Assistant Principal

Amy Gargani, IB Coordinator