



Parents' Independent School Network, Inc.

UPPER SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS
May 4, 2016

School Name	Division/ Grades	Project Name	Project Description
Bancroft School	Upper School 9-12	Frame of Mind	Frame of Mind was started last year by 2 sophomore students, who continue to lead the organization. Their goal is to raise awareness about mental health and wellness issues which many students experience in high school. Frame of Mind has held bake sales and other fundraisers, like dress-down days, raising \$1300 for the Shine Initiative and AFSP (American Foundation of Suicide Prevention). They also handed out flyers that listed 100 ways to reduce stress. In addition, they sent 6 students to a Boston walk-a-thon for AFSP, with all money raised going to AFSP. Their most recent event was on February 25 where they organized activities such as coloring, make-your-own glitter-jars, bubble wrap and more to reduce stress.
Beaver Country Day School	Upper School 9-12	Horizons National	The applicant has worked for three summers at a camp called Horizons National. Horizons provides free summer academic learning for low income, public school students. This student worked at a camp at Dedham Country Day School, but there are other Horizon camps around the US. The goal is for these students to not experience summer academic loss and to instead be

			more prepared for the upcoming school year. The applicant taught the oldest group of children tennis.
Belmont Hill School	Upper School 9-12	Ceramics with Special Needs	Four Belmont Hill School students and two BH ceramics teachers worked together with 8 special needs students, ages 6-40, on a variety of projects involving clay and glaze. There are two sessions, 5 and 8 weeks each, which take place at the Belmont Hill School Ceramics studio. This program has had an impact on both the participants as well as the Belmont Hill School young men who learn about compassion and caring.
Belmont Hill School	Upper School 9-12	Camp Starfish	<p>National Service Day Trip: Camp Starfish is a residential camp program for children ages 7 to 14 with emotional, behavioral, and learning disabilities in New Hampshire. The camp combines recreation and education into a fun camp experience for kids who struggle to find success in normal social environments. With a camper to counselor ratio of 1:1, they struggle with staffing and budget.</p> <p>The entire Belmont Hill School senior class and teachers work at Camp Starfish from 9am to 3pm to prepare the camp for opening day. This has become an annual one-day tradition for the senior class each spring. They clear camp trails, fix up cabins, and clear debris such as tree limbs or trash. Last year, they built a new fire pit and constructed a tool shed. The work they do in one day would take the staff two-weeks to complete. This allows the Camp Starwood staff to have more time to prepare for the campers.</p>

Belmont Hill School	Upper School 9-12	The Pan Mass Challenge Belmont Kid's Ride	For several years, Belmont Hill School students have organized, planned, and coordinated the annual Pan Mass Challenge Belmont Kids Ride to raise funds for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, inspired by the passing of a beloved teacher after his long fight with cancer. To date, these events have been very successful, raising an average of over \$20,000 dollars for Dana-Farber. This year, the project is hosting more than 200 riders with 30+volunteers and has set a target of raising \$30,000 dollars for research. The event raises money through participation fees, gifts, fundraising from bikers themselves, and raffles. Families will come to Belmont Hill to ride their bikes through the nearby streets, enjoy the spring day, and raise money for cancer research. After the ride, families stay for a cookout, raffles, and games, all while enjoying the music from the live DJ of a local radio station. Overall, the event is a great day for the local community and the school itself, and presents a fantastic opportunity to raise money for a great cause and make a difference. This year, the event will take place on May 22.
Belmont Hill School	Upper School 9-12	Helping the Hoarders	This project helps "hoarders", people who exhibit behavior that is characterized by excessive acquisition and an inability or unwillingness to discard large quantities of objects that cover the living areas of the home and cause significant distress or impairment. Often these people are widowed or have emotional loss that causes them to start hoarding. This community service project has occurred just once but they hope to make it an on going program.

			<p>One teacher and 7 students, along with other community members, spent 1-2 hours helping to clean the front and back yard of a "hoarder". The Town of Belmont, as well as other towns, has a Hoarding Task Force, composed of the health, fire, and police departments. This particular project involved one man, and they have already been back several times, but there is still much work to be done.</p>
Berwick Academy	Upper School 9-12	AWS Memorial Fundraiser	<p>The AWS Memorial Fundraiser was established by a student to commemorate the partner of a Berwick Academy faculty member who was killed in a car accident. Last year, the organization sponsored an on-campus fundraiser called the Acadarod, which was a human sled-dog race, copying a Dartmouth tradition. The proceeds, over \$2,000, went to the Dartmouth Outing Club who helped to restore one of the AMT cabins. The Dartmouth Outing Club maintains 50 miles of the AMT (Appalachian Mountain Trail). This year, for the second annual AWS Memorial Fundraiser, a group of students from Berwick will restore an AMT cabin and maintain trails.</p>
Buckingham, Browne & Nichols	Upper School 9-12	S.H.A.R.E.	<p>S.H.A.R.E. (Sexual Harassment and Relationship Education) was created in the summer of 2015 in response to the growing media attention given to the high rate of sexual assault on college campuses. The goal is to educate students and spread awareness at BB&N as well as to create an environment where students feel comfortable discussing sexual violence prevention and healthy relationships. Ten students completed training with BARCC (Boston Area Rape Crisis Center)</p>

			<p>last summer. This year, they have met weekly to create awareness programs for their school. Their numbers have grown from 10 to 25 active participants, but they also collaborate with other school leaders (class presidents, athletic team captains & peer advisors). They are currently working on a Public Service Announcement that they would like to show to the school community during April (Sexual Assault Awareness Month).</p>
Buckingham, Browne & Nichols	Upper School 9-12	Youth for Youth	<p>For two years, two BB&N students have completed a week-long service trip to Haiti, where they have worked in an orphanage for children left orphaned or abandoned after the 2010 earthquake. The students created a school club called Youth For Youth, whose goal is to raise funds to help build a new dorm for these children, who are currently living in substandard conditions. The need for the orphanage has continued to grow even after the earthquake, servicing more children each year. The orphanage has run out of space and these children are living in small huts/tents. Youth for Youth has organized several school fundraisers including a pancake breakfast. In addition, they have held a toy drive at Christmas.</p>
Lawrence Academy	Upper School 9-12	Stop Hunger Now	<p>In partnership with Stop Hunger Now, this student club has run a meal packaging event for two years, and the plan is for the program to become an annual event. The meals are sent to schools in countries where getting an education is challenging and where parents must often decide whether to send their child to school or to work. If a meal is</p>

			<p>provided, the parents will often send their children to school. These meals are put together by student and faculty volunteers working assembly lines at stations with such tasks as measuring and weighing ingredients, such as rice, soy, and dehydrated vegetables. Their goal is to not only package 10,000 meals each school year but to partner in the future with other schools, local organizations and alumni to be able to make more meals. While the event itself is only a few hours on one day, the fund raising for this event takes all year.</p>
Milton Academy	Upper School 9-12	Belize Service Trip	<p>Each year, 15 Milton students take a week of their spring break to go on a service trip to Belize. (Service hours are not a requirement of graduation at Milton Academy.) Most of the service is focused around Ocean Academy, the only high school on the island of Caye Caulker, where the MA students provide enrichment programs for the local children. In addition, they work on construction/renovation projects at the school. The projects occurring this March will include exterior painting, resurfacing cement hallways, carpentry projects and building a composting and recycling collection area.</p>
Milton Academy	Upper School 9-12	Taylor Elementary School Art Activities	<p>Each week throughout the year, 15 Milton Academy students and Community Service Board Leaders go into the Taylor Elementary School to bring art activities to the grade 1 classrooms. This program began 10 years ago when a Milton Academy student discovered that the Taylor School's art budget had been cut for these children. Taylor Elementary School is located in Mattapan. Since then, MA student service leaders design arts and crafts activities and organize</p>

			supplies which a pair of MA student volunteers use to guide the children in step by step art projects (bookmarks, Thanksgiving hand turkeys, snowflakes etc). Each week, 120 children are served.
Thayer Academy	Upper School 9-12	Birthday Wishes	In its second year, The Birthday Wishes Club is comprised of about 40 Thayer students. Birthday Wishes provides the materials for birthday parties for children in homeless shelters. The students also make Birthdays In A Box for children who are not only in homeless shelters but are also trying to escape domestic abuse, so it may be unsafe to leave the shelter. Funds for Birthday Wishes are raised through bake sales and dress-down days. This year, the Birthday Wishes Club also made 130 goody bags, which they sold to Thayer students. Thayer students usually donate napkins, plates and candles, and the funds raised are used to pay for presents, special treats and a birthday cake. The parties take place at the shelters. The students raise funds for these parties (about 20 this year), and sometimes even work at the parties. They create about 2 Birthdays in a Box each year.
Thayer Academy	Upper School 9-12	Holiday Toy Project	For 30 years, the entire Thayer Academy community has participated in the Holiday Toy Project and it has grown from 50 children in 1987 to 574 children in 2015. Names of children in need are gathered from several local organizations including the Department of Families and Children and Head Start. Each Thayer student is given a name for whom to purchase holiday gifts. The gifts are brought to the school, organized and the picked up by the various social workers at the

			organization. In addition, representatives from these organizations come to campus to speak to the Thayer students about the goals of each organization as well as to describe what life is like for these children.
Tabor Academy	Upper School 9-12	Big Brothers, Big Sisters Supplies and Materials for Weekly Activities	Tabor Academy and the New Bedford-area Big Brothers, Big Sisters program have a long standing relationship. Each week, Tabor students are taken to Child & Family Services to spend time with 8 children, primarily boys. The bigs and littles make craft projects, build models, play games and complete puzzles. Several of the littles are homeless, living with a single parent. The Tabor bigs chat with the littles about how they are doing in school as well as the struggles they endure. After graduation, these Tabor Academy students often go on to colleges or universities where they become part of the "Big Brothers, Big Sisters" in those communities.