



THE SUMMIT

ELEVATING EDUCATION AT BLAINE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES - Bellevue Cub Council



"Cub Council means a lot to me because I like caring for others."

-Cub Council leader at Bellevue Elementary

Service & Leadership with Cub Council

Looking to add some kindness to your day? You'll find it at [Bellevue Elementary School](#), where the 5th grade student leadership group, the Cub Council, is hosting a Kindness Challenge through February, featuring:

- A kindness spirit week with morning announcements encouraging daily random acts of kindness tasks.
- A Generosity Store, where they gave away fancy pencils for a promise of each customer doing a kind deed.
- A kindness spirit assembly including teaching the whole school how to do the Cupid Shuffle dance, leading the Bellevue Honor Code, and presenting teddy bears to community helpers.

The Cub Council is pretty special. It was started in 2007 by Engineering Design Technology teacher [Krista Jones](#) when she identified a small group of 5th graders who needed some extra support. It formally evolved into a student leadership education council focused on developing self-confidence, life-long leadership, and citizenship skills. Eighteen years later, it's still going strong, thanks to the leadership of Jones, who in addition to being the



engineering teacher, runs the student leadership, peer mentoring and service trips during lunch time and after school. She has worked at Bellevue Elementary School for 36 years and is retiring this year.

"Half of the Council is me, as a teacher, being there for them and being their mentor," says Jones. "And the other half is giving each student opportunities for leadership so they can prove to themselves what they can accomplish."

This year, the 36-student Cub Council meets weekly to plan leadership goals and school and community projects. Every week, the fifth-grade leaders also mentor third graders on team-building skills, how to get to know other people, and how to be a support for other people. This typically involves activities ranging from doing community service, science experiments, or fun art teamwork projects.



In the words of one Cub Council leader, "Cub Council means a lot to me because I like caring for others."

Up next is the BEAR HUGS project, which involves the whole student body donating nearly 100 teddy bears to our local Community Helpers—[St Luke's Hospital](#), the [Bellevue Marshal's office](#), the [Bellevue Fire Department](#) and [Wood River Fire and Rescue](#)—to provide teddy bears for comfort for people in trauma.

Spring-planned community service projects include service with the [Hunger Coalition](#) and the [Cove Nursing Home](#), environmental work with the [Wood River Land Trust](#), and cleaning up the streets of Bellevue.

Learn more about the Cub Council here:
<https://besengineeringtech.weebly.com/leadership-council.html>

