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Press Release

ABILENE EDUCATION FOUNDATION SURPRISE PRIZE PARADE

Hoots and hollers, the rattling of noise-makers, a whole lot of laughter and cheers, along with a handful of happy tears are just some of the things you may witness on Prize Parade Days, as the Abilene Education Foundation (accompanied by AEF board members and members of the school board) once again march through the halls of Abilene ISD campuses, awarding unsuspecting – yet hopeful – teachers with STAR (Supporting Teachers with Academic Resources) Teacher Grants.

AEF awards STAR Teacher Grants (up to \$1000) each September to deserving teachers, based on grant proposals submitted during the summer, for a wide array of projects – from I-pads and technology, to flexible seating options, to incentives designed to reward classroom attendance. Grants are read, evaluated, and ranked (blindly) by a panel of readers. This year was a particularly competitive year, as AEF received an impressive 145 applications. Of those, AEF was able to award 72 grants to 96 teachers across 22 campuses, totaling a little over \$55,000 in funds to support curriculum and classroom enrichment. Thanks, in large part, to employee participation in AEF's annual Payroll Deduction Campaign, AEF's annual fundraiser Cajun Fest, with matching funds from Greathouse Foundation and Priceless-Literacy.

Prize Parade Schedule: Tuesday, September 18th

8:15 – Arrive Reagan Elem. / 8:15 – 8:30 (3)
8:35 – Arrive Clack MS / 8:35 – 8:55 (4)
9:05 – Arrive Dyess Elem. / 9:05 – 9:10 (1)
9:15 – Arrive Bassetti Elem. / 9:15 – 9:20 (1)
9:30 – Arrive Ward Elem. / 9:30 – 9:50 (4)
9:55 – Arrive CHS / 9:55 – 10:50 (9)
10:55 Arrive Jackson Elem. / 10:55 – 11:05 (2)
11:15 – Arrive Bowie Elem. / 11:15 – 11:25 (2)
11:35 – Arrive Austin Elem. / 11:35 – 11:50 (3)
11:55 – Arrive Bonham Elem. / 11:55 – 12:10 (3)

Prize Parade Schedule: Wednesday, September 19th

8:15 – Arrive Thomas Elem. / 8:15 – 8:45 (4)
8:50 – Arrive Craig MS / 8:50 – 9:25 (5)
9:30 – Arrive ATEMS / 9:30 – 9:50 (4)
9:55 – Arrive Taylor Elem. / 9:55 – 10:05 (2)
10:10 – Arrive AHS / 10:10 – 10:50 (8)
10:55 – Arrive Holland Medical High School / 10:55 – 11:00 (1)
11:05 Arrive Martinez Elem. / 11:05 – 11:20 (3)
11:25 – Arrive Ortiz / 11:25 – 11:35 (2)
11:40 – Arrive Mann MS / 11:40 – 11:55 (3)
12:00 – Arrive Long Early Childhood / 12:00 – 12:30 (5)
12:35 – Arrive Johnston Elem. / 12:35 – 12:40 (1)
12:45 – Arrive Lee Elem. / 12:45 – 12:50 (1)

• **For Release, Monday, September 17, 2018**