

## **NCHS Breakfast with Iron Awards – October & November:**

### **October:**

#### **Anita Claricoates nominated Hexiel Gomez**

Hexiel rides to school from Clinton every day so he can be in the ESL program. He is always waiting at the door of my first hour class with a smile on his face, ready to learn. He always has his homework done, is attentive in class, and has the answer ready to share. He is respectful to all his classmates and his teachers. In order to learn English more quickly, Hexiel has taken on an extra textbook, doing all of the activities little by little. He is a great role model for other English Language Learners, and I am privileged to be his teacher.

#### **Terry Mester nominated Jeremiah Hughes**

I first met Jeremiah Hughes during his freshman year at NCHS. I got to know him because he was a reader who frequently visited the IMC and also participated in our Books 'n Bites program. Because I felt he was trustworthy and reliable, I asked Jeremiah to be an IMC monitor for the spring 2008 semester. Every day he comes into the IMC with a smile and a helpful attitude. Jeremiah has proven to be one of our most reliable monitors. When the daily tasks are completed, he always asks us if we have anything else that needs to be done. We have several IMC monitors, but Jeremiah stands out with his positive attitude and willingness to help.

#### **Jason Ruyle nominated Murphy Martin**

I have known Murphy since she took one of my classes her freshman year. It seems she has been able to always get one or two art classes into her schedule. While in these classes Murphy has always worked hard and strived to produce quality work. Murphy also finds time to take classes where she gets to work with little kids. When I told Murphy I was becoming the sponsor for Tomorrow's Teachers Club, she expressed interest in being a part of this group. As I discussed this further with Murphy, she told me that she was interested in becoming a special education teacher. I was able to find Murphy an opportunity to work with Ms. Smith and Mrs. Sanders, two of our special education teachers. Ms. Smith has told me that Murphy has been a tremendous help to their students since the very first day. She tutors and helps to design lessons for the students. Murphy is a true asset to NCHS and a wonderful young lady.

#### **Laura Thomas nominated Jamale Brewster**

Jamale always has a smile and a positive attitude. She has been a huge help with the preschool program this year. She is willing to help with whatever I need and many times does things without being asked. She is genuine and sincere and has the ability to encourage those around her. She has been a lot of fun to have in class and I will miss her next year.

**Don Whitman nominated Evan Fries**

Evan's dedication and leadership in the classroom far exceeds any other student I have had in the past 9 years of teaching. He always steps up and helps out other students without being asked, and his initiative and eagerness to learn is demonstrated each day in class. I know Evan will be very successful in the future at whatever he sets his mind to do. Congratulations to Evan on this well-deserved recognition.

**November:****Stacy Brobston nominated Devin Dever**

This year I have the privilege of having Devin in my study hall. Devin has done a great job of transitioning from junior high to high school. Even though homework can be quite overwhelming, Devin has a very determined attitude to get his work done. He responds well to assistance with his work, and will ask for help when he needs it instead of just giving up. I am very proud of Devin and all of his accomplishments so far this year.

**Alicia Chaon nominated Cristina Espinoza**

Cristina has that special, rare ability to brighten the day of others with a simple kind word or comment. Cristina is extremely personable and has an exceptional attitude. She is a great role model for others and a wonderful representative of NCHS. I am very excited to have the privilege of being Cristina's teacher, as well as the chance to get to know her better as the semester continues.

**Joan Fee nominated Nathaniel Rivera**

Nathaniel Rivera is a Monitor in the guidance office during 4<sup>th</sup> (lunch) hour. In just a few short days at the start of the school year, it was abundantly apparent that Nathaniel was going to be the favorite of all in the counseling office. Nathaniel has a beautiful smile and a charisma that draws people to him. He has the ability to read a situation and respond in a socially appropriate manner. For example, each day when he arrives, he greets our administrative assistant, Teresa Swenson. If she is working with others, he waits for her to finish before he greets her. Never a day goes by without his well wishes. It has become a constant that brings a smile and a warm feeling. We greatly appreciate Nathaniel's kind heart. He has a superb work ethic. Typically we have 2 students helping each hour. This semester Nathaniel is the only student during one of our lunch hours (typically a busy time). He accepts the tasks we ask of him without hesitation. His positive attitude is apparent in his reactions to requests. Not only is this Nathaniel's first year because he is a freshman, this is his first year because he is a transfer student. He has become such a valued part of our office. He is polite and respectful. He is responsible and committed. These traits will become assets not only to Nathaniel, but to those who have the privilege to learn and work with him. I am proud of the NCHS guidance office and the services we provide. We are blessed to have a student who is an ideal example of the traits we are encouraging in our students.

**Tom Patten nominated Jeana Owens**

Just ask Dorothy: leaving Kansas can be a pretty scary proposition. Unfortunately, that's exactly what Jeana Owens had to do this summer. And while we here at NCHS would certainly compare our school favorably to Oz, no doubt there's more than one wicked witch and at least several spooky flying monkeys lurking in the shadows here. Jeana, however, has not let those potential dangers get in her way. Pretty much from day one she has rejected that all too familiar persona of the "quiet outsider," opting instead to be a regular and positive participant in class discussions. She enters the classroom with a cheery "hello" and a smile on her face. She is upbeat and eager it seems every single day, whether the topic be Macbeth's "life is but a poor player" speech or Frost's contemplation of the woods that are "lovely, dark, and deep." In a sixth hour class where too many students succumb to the deadly "lunch has made my head too heavy" blues, Jeana keeps singing--figuratively of course--about getting up above that rainbow. Jeana makes my job not just easier but more fun, and for that I am pleased to recognize her at this Breakfast with Iron.

**Bryan Thomas nominated Divya Mani**

Divya goes over and beyond to be a positive influence within our NCHS school community. She is a member of the African-American Culture Club, and she has founded a new service project club here. She is as diligent a student as I have had the pleasure of teaching, and although she is extremely busy and serious about her future and education, she takes her free-time to tutor other students.