

Learning and Growing at Northside

Northside is a School of Excellence with...Heart and we try to show that in everything we do! One of our community service projects last year was to create Easter baskets for the residents of Riverwick Assisted Living. Our Northside families generously donation funds to create baskets containing blankets, snacks, puzzle books, and much more. Several of our students delivered the baskets and enjoyed talking with the residents.

We also strive to include members of the community in various learning opportunities each year. During Read Across America we invite guest readers to visit our students and share their favorite books from their childhood. Students in grades 4 and 5 have the honor of reading to our Kindergarten and 1st grade students during RAA also.

This past year, we had our first Health and Safety Fair for grades 4 and 5. Our community generously donated funds which enabled over 140 students to receive goodie bags filled with health and hygiene items. Another wonderful community centered event is our bi-annual Career Fair for all of our students. Booths are set



Northside Elementary students delivering Easter treats to residents at Riverwick Assisted Living.

up in the gym and outside so that students may visit and learn more about potential careers.

STEAMing into a New Year

Northside has a history of creating a wide variety of enhanced educational opportunities for students. One of our most successful endeavors has been our STEM programs. Now we are expanding our vision to incorporate art into STEM and allowing students to participate in STEAM activities through our computer classes and in classrooms on a weekly basis.

Last spring, Northside received a STEM grant from Tennessee Science Innovation Network (TSIN) sponsored by TVA and BVI. This \$5,000 grant enabled us to purchase resources



Northside Elementary faculty and staff.

for teaching coding, robotics, engineering/design principles and much more. Our students experienced hands-on opportunities to use their higher order thinking skills to solve real-world problems.

We also received a \$5,000 grant from the National Education Association (NEA) Foundation. With these grant funds, we will purchase materials to create a mobile makerspace that can be utilized by all of our teachers and students in their classrooms. Activities will include bridge building, using Spheros and cubelets, and creating circuits to learn more about electricity.

All of learning grant funded learning opportunities will give our students a deeper understanding of how to solve problems and think outside of the box. We also hope to encourage our students to pursue STEAM careers and other learning opportunities in their postsecondary future.



Students participating in a STEM project last year.