

Lasting impression: Enthusiastic first grade teacher's impact is shared by generations

Teacher of the Month



Lauren Bax's first grade students are taught all the core subjects like math, science and reading – but there is no shortage of joy and laughter. Silliness is the ethos that she hopes to maintain in her classroom at **Barrington Elementary in the Hazelwood School District**. She often incorporates a song or a saying into the lessons or encourages students to celebrate their successes. “We have classroom cheers that we use on a daily basis to encourage [or] congratulate each other,” she said.

Leaving impressions and leading her team Jokes aside, to say Mrs. Bax has left a lasting impression is an understatement. “I’m writing this six years after our last child passed through her class. I’m still impressed with her success as a teacher, not just for my kids, but for kids in general,” Crystal Seyer said. Bax’s former students and their parents aren’t the only ones who sing her praises. “She’s a great teacher and just keeps getting greater,” said instructional coach and coworker, Jenna Busch.

Not only does Mrs. Bax lead her pack of littles, she is a leader among peers. “All of her expertise from year after year, she is willing to share [with her team]. Her team seems to just soak it up like a sponge,” said assistant principal Tracy Smith. “They are such a great team, and I attribute that to her leadership.” Bax has been a teacher for 19 years – but she dreamt of her career in education long before she had her degree. “I have wanted to be a teacher since I was a little girl. I always loved playing school with friends and always insisted on being the teacher,” she said. “Also, I loved when my teachers let me help grade papers in elementary school.” **CLICK THE LINK BELOW FOR THE ENTIRE STORY**



Florissant man accused of raping girls he met on Snapchat facing 28 new charges



ST. LOUIS COUNTY (KMOV.com) --- A St. Louis County man accused of assaulting and raping six young girls, including a 13-year-old girl, is facing new charges as more victims come forward. According to the St. Louis County Police Department, Dominic Yocco, 21, of Florissant, is accused of luring several young girls between Nov. 17, 2016 and July 3, 2018 to his home using Snapchat and other social media apps. The Florissant man was indicted on 14 counts of rape, nine counts of sodomy, attempted sodomy and child molestation on Feb. 22, totaling 28 new charges. Neighbors told News 4 in 2019, that Yocco had several people partying at his home. "They party a lot over there and have a lot of people over. Their cars wind around the corner, they're loud at night," said a neighbor. **CLICK THE LINK BELOW FOR THE ENTIRE STORY.**

Former WHS student; lives near Cold Water Elementary

https://www.kmov.com/news/florissant-man-accused-of-raping-girls-he-met-on-snapchat-facing-28-new-charges/article_88a20c1e-d319-11e9-945b-cbff87ceaf4.html

March 1, 2021