

NEWS RELEASE



ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUSINESSES SHOW APPRECIATION FOR EDUCATORS WITH COFFEE TRUCKS & SUPPLIES

(St. Joseph, MO) -- Members of the St. Joseph business community are coming together to show their appreciation for educators in Buchanan County. About 20 businesses have sponsored coffee trucks to visit schools to give educators a free boost of caffeine to help get them started for the school day.

"When the idea was brought up to show our appreciation to teachers, members of our Board of Directors were quick to choose dates to sponsor," said Natalie Hawn, President and CEO of the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce. "It's just a small token, but it's a nice way to brighten up their day and give some revenue to some of our small businesses that have mobile coffee endeavors."

Besides the coffee trucks, Herzog Contracting Corp. also provided schools with a wagon of coffee bar supplies for their break rooms, including a Keurig machine, water filter, snacks, Keurig cups, sweeteners, creamer, tea, Clorox wipes, all in a multi-purpose wagon.

"Our staff is beyond thankful," said Crystal Conroy, Secretary at Helen Davis School. "We thought we were getting a cup of coffee, not a Keurig and everything we need for an entire coffee bar!"

It was important for this appreciation effort to reach out to all educators in Buchanan County, including those outside of city limits and private schools.

"All of our educators work hard every day, no matter what building you're in," Hawn said. "We just wanted to say thank you."

In addition to the coffee truck visits and wagons, Tolly & Associates also made a special donation to Coleman Elementary School, which it has partnered with for several years. Don Tolly, President/Owner, said he asked the school principal what they needed and she said their break room wasn't very conducive for a relaxing environment. So they decided to do a "Break Room Makeover." It includes a rug, table for the Herzog-donated supplies, coffee table and more. His whole staff was involved in the makeover.

The effort to visit all of the schools in Buchanan County will continue through Oct. 28.

The media is invited to attend a coffee truck thank you event at 7 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 4, at Benton High School, 5655 S. Fourth St. This is a Missouri Western State University-sponsored day and extra fanfare from MWSU Athletics is scheduled to be a part of the spirited morning.

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