

Published: Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.



Photo provided by Food Brings Hope

Gathering for an FBHons picture are: (front from left) Ernesto Pitt, James Hanks, Dahson Watson, Zachary Scheurman, Declan Flynn, Ashley Gross; (middle) Malana Jackson, Johnny Ingram, John Ellis, Dakota Ruyle, Nazareth Williams, Jakyra McCloud, Nina Samuel, Aimee Shank (Westside sponsor); (back) Judi Winch (Westside principal), Sydney White, Karen Kepner (Campbell sponsor), Caleb Devlin, Craig Zablo (Campbell principal), Johnny Fluitt, Devonte Everheart, Forough B. Hosseini, Anthony Sharper, Judi Boone (personal trainer and nutrition coach) and Divya Sheth.

ORMOND BEACH – Food Brings Hope recently celebrated the achievements of 19 students who are members of the FBHons programs at Westside Elementary and Campbell Middle Schools.

The celebration, which took place April 25, featured dinner at Plantation Bay's Club De Bonmont, awards, remarks from Food Brings Hope Founder and Chairwoman Forough B. Hosseini and Principals Judi Winch and Craig Zablo. Judi Boone made a presentation on proper dining etiquette. Nineteen students, along with their teachers and school principals, attended the banquet.

"Food Brings Hope's mission is to help kids reach their fullest potential," said Hosseini. "The FBHons Program was created with the vision of nurturing these very bright students from elementary school through high school, and helping them pursue a college education."

Upon arrival, the students were seated around a large table at The Club De Bonmont. They were given a menu and were invited to select from several choices of appetizers, sides, entrees, beverages and desserts. Hosseini herself produced a video with the year's highlights and images showcasing the origin and purpose of the FBHons Program.

In her remarks to the students, Hosseini said, "For FBHons, we pick the smartest...the most determined...the hardest working students we can find. You are those students and you are to be commended."

Principals Winch and Zablo addressed the students and discussed aspects of academic challenges and successes. Program leaders Aimee Shank, Karen Kepner and Lisa Zavota were also present.

"Our FBHons program provides stretch learning for our students who have an aptitude and interest in math, science and higher learning," said Craig Zablo, principal of Campbell Middle School. "FBHons provides experiences and opportunities that these students would otherwise never get."

The highlight of the afternoon was the awards presentation, where each student received a special designation from his or her teacher (Science Whiz, Future Engineer, Mathematician, etc.), a personally engraved trophy and a \$50 gift card.

The students dressed for the occasion and shared their thoughts about their experience in FBHons.

Johnny Ingram from Westside said his favorite part of the program was doing scientific experiments. "We built a solar mechanical car that ran on energy from the sun," he said. Named "Most Determined" by his teachers, he was happy to be at this event because, "It's a good thing to honor us."

Nazareth Williams was named "Most Improved" at Westside. She said she loved the field trips, which have included trips to museums, concerts and other local events. "This banquet was my favorite, though," she said "Because we get to talk to our friends and have a nice meal."

Johnny Fluitt of Campbell said he really enjoyed getting to experience new and different programs, including the "Money Smart Banking Program" presented by the United Way. He also enjoyed the etiquette presentation and was surprised that he learned something new: "The bread plate goes on the left and the drinks go on the right. You can remember that by doing an 'OK' sign with both hands...the left one is a "B" for bread and the right a "D" for drink."

The program closed with the Westside students presenting Hosseini with a handmade photo album with photos and thank you notes from each student.

AWARDS:

Campbell: Johnny Fluitt, Most Determined; Anthony Sharper, Most Reliable; John Ellis, Creative Thinker; Zachary Scheurman, The Detective; Caleb Devlin, The Writer; Devanta Phillips, Friendliest; Divya Sheth, Social Magnet.

Westside: Declan Flynn, Mathematician; Ashley Gross, All Around Scholar; James Hanks, Best Attitude; Johnny Ingram, Most Determined; Malana Jackson, Role Model of the Year; Jakyra McCloud, Science Whiz; Ernesto Pitt, Creative Problem Solver; Dakota Ruyle, Future Engineer; Nina Samuel, Literary Scholar; Dahson Walton, Mr. Congenial; Sydney White, Most Caring; Nazareth Williams, Most Improved.