

Mentor students surpass United Way goal



Mentor Public High School students put real action into caring when they increased their United Way giving by over 140%.

Deborah Foley, United Way of Lake County president, addressed the student body at a school assembly and said, "There has been a lot of conversation regarding Mentor Public School students. They are just words. Through your actions today, you showed how much you care for people in need. You should each be proud and we thank you with all our hearts."

Last year, the student campaign raised \$1,550 through various activities such as selling a football signed by the Mentor High School team. This year, the students, with help from the staff, more than doubled their results by raising \$3,606. They had set a goal of \$3,000, which they surpassed.

"Students sold a signed football by the team," said members of the student government. They continued: "Students also held a volleyball tournament and held a "stall the teacher" event during one class period on a Friday in early October. "

"Stall the teacher" involves students bringing loose coins to the teacher at the beginning of class. Teachers must count all the coins before class starts. The object is for the students to bring enough coins to "stall the teacher" from beginning class. The students raised \$2,800 from this one event.

One teacher, Mrs. Roediger, matched dollar for dollar every coin contributed in her class. She wrote a check for \$140. Mr. Janiak, a math teacher in his last year of teaching, was greeted by fellow teachers

who each contributed \$10 in small coins. The cafeteria employees allowed the students to use the coin counter that took four hours and 15 people to count all the contributions.

“Mentor High School students have always been generous,” said Foley. “During the annual “Feed Lake County” food drive, more food is contributed by the students from Mentor than any other business or school in the county. Mentor High School incorporates the importance of giving back to the less fortunate and community as part of the lesson plan for being a good citizen. We are lucky to have role models such as the teachers, school administration and district leaders,” said Foley

The United Way campaign continues through the end of the year and has set a fund-raising goal of \$3.566 million, which is a 3% increase over last year’s achievement. Currently, the United Way of Lake County is at 40% of its goal.

A few companies have completed its United Way campaign. Mentor High School is the first student campaign to finish.

To learn more about the United Way, contribute, or to hold a campaign, call David Munson at 440.639.4588 or e-mail dmunson@uwlc.org