

Stuff the Bus initiative to kick off July 22

By Afton Fairchild Spencer
Advocate staff writer

The Montgomery County School District is once again sponsoring Stuff the Bus, a local initiative to provide all students in the county with school supplies before the upcoming school year.

Stuff the Bus was first held last year, and was quite successful, Public Relations Director Kristi Carter said.

“We received a lot of positive feedback from the community,” Carter said.

This year, the district is hoping to gather even more community participation for the event.

“It’s an opportunity for community members to help students and ensure their readiness for school,” Carter said.

The following new items are being requested for the upcoming year: backpacks, crayons, pocket folders, glue sticks, school scissors, binders, highlighters, washable markers, regular pencils, pencil erasers, plastic school supply boxes, dry erase markers, zipper supply pouches, composition notebooks and wide-ruled notebook paper.

There will be several donation locations across the county, with some businesses offering incentives for donations. Donation locations, dates and times are as follows:

- Walmart—Monday, July 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Tuesday, July 23 from 3 to 8 p.m.
- Kroger—Wednesday, July 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Big Lots—Thursday, July 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Dollar General in Camargo—Friday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Ruth Hunt—Friday, July 26, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Those who donate will receive a free Blue Monday.

- Dairy Queen—Friday, July 26, 5 to 8 p.m. Those who donate will receive a free small ice cream cone.

Donated items will be given to parents of Montgomery County students during Operation Registration Aug. 1-2 and 5-6 at the Montgomery County High School cafeteria.

Operation Registration is also in its second year, and is an event that helps to eliminate paperwork completed by parents throughout the school year that can often get lost or misplaced. More information will become available on the event as the registration date nears.

Carter encourages the community to support the district’s Stuff the Bus effort.

“Anytime you can support families and children in your own community, it’s a good thing regardless of how big or small the donation, every little bit helps,” she said.

For more information or to get assistance with collected supplies, call Carter at **497-8760 ext. 228** or email **kristi.carter@montgomery.kyschools.us**.

Stuff the Bus is sponsored by the Montgomery County Schools Community Education Program, transportation dept. and family resource centers.