



◆NEWS RELEASE◆

CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL WINS STATE AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE/VOLUNTEERISM

Boise, ID --11/11/2011-- Boise School District's Capital High School took top honors in Idaho for the school's public service and volunteerism efforts. On November 10, 2011 Idaho Governor **C.L. "Butch" Otter** and First Lady **Lori Otter** recognized Capital High School during the 2011 Governor's Brightest Star Award ceremony. The annual ceremony recognizes Idaho's unsung heroes who work tirelessly as volunteers to improve the quality of life for Idaho and its citizens. Capital High School won the School Volunteer of the Year award.

"I am so very proud of our students, staff members, and our entire school community for receiving this significant award," explained **Jon Ruzicka**, Principal, Capital High School. "We are very appreciative of this honor. It reflects Capital High School's dedication to our community by providing our students with public service and volunteer opportunities."

Capital High School students and staff volunteered close to 30,000 hours last year in public service. They had a fresh food bank for the Agency for New Americans refugee organization, tutored children, started chess clubs at elementary schools, read aloud to residents at retirement centers, helped with dance classes for retirees and raised funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Capital High School faculty members incorporate service learning techniques as a fundamental part of many courses. About 85 percent of all senior final projects at Capital High School incorporate volunteerism and public service. 106 nominees were honored during this year's Governor's Brightest Star Award ceremony and awards were presented in six categories, including the school division.



Capital High School was selected to receive the 2011 Governor's Brightest Star Award for the school's public service and volunteerism efforts. Pictured left to right: Idaho First Lady Lori Otter; Jon Ruzicka, Principal, Capital High School; Gabe Osterhout, senior, Capital High; Katie Foote, senior, Capital High; Eleanor Collins, senior, Capital High; Sandy Wold, Marketing/DECA Teacher, Capital High; and Idaho Governor "Butch" Otter.

About Governor's Brightest Star Awards

Governor Dirk Kempthorne and the Governor's Coordinating Council for Families and Children established the Governor's Brightest Star Awards in 2001 in partnership with the Association of Idaho Cities to recognize Idaho's "unsung heroes" who volunteer tirelessly on behalf of their fellow Idahoans. The purpose of the Governor's Brightest Star Awards program is to affirm and encourage active voluntary participation by citizens of all ages throughout our great state. The tradition of recognizing Idaho's outstanding volunteers has carried on through Governor Jim Risch's and C.L. "Butch" Otter's administrations. Since its inception, more than 500 individuals and groups have been recognized as Governor's Brightest Stars. These everyday heroes come from every corner of the state, representing large and small communities. They truly are Idaho's Brightest Stars! All of the nominees who meet the minimum qualifications are recognized at the annual Governor's Brightest Star Awards ceremony. Citizen review panels traditionally assist the Governor and First Lady in identifying those who will be featured during the awards ceremony. The Governor and First Lady present an award for the Governor's Brightest Star - Volunteer of the Year in each nomination category. Other honorees are recognized during the ceremony. The Governor's Brightest Star Awards program is administered by Serve Idaho, the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. Serve Idaho is housed within the Idaho Department of Labor in Boise, Idaho. For more information log on to <http://serveidaho.labor.idaho.gov/Events/GovernorsBrightestStars.aspx>