



THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF FOR
SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS EVERY DAY!
TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT THEY'VE BEEN UP TO.

At Buchanan, we LEARN BY HEART! ❤️



In the fall of 2020, three-year-old Hank Boone started his first year of preschool at Ottawa Elementary. Hank entered preschool as one of the younger kids in class, and his parents were nervous about his transition.



Joann Boone, Hank's mom, felt her worries slowly recede after Hank was placed in Mrs. Kari Chase's class.

"She would hold his hand and walk him inside nearly every day. At first there were a lot of tears. Mrs. Chase has this caring nature about her though, and just her voice even seemed to calm Hank most of the time," said Joann Boone.

School seemed to be going well for Hank as time went on, and he opened up to Mrs. Chase more and more. Then, a few months after school began, Hank took a tumble and fractured his leg. He was in a full cast and it added another layer of concern for his parents.

"We were very nervous about how he would get along at school. Mrs. Chase never missed a beat though and took him right under her wing. She would gladly help him get around, and I knew that he was in good hands," Joann Boone said.

Shortly after, school went virtual due to COVID-19. Mrs. Chase checked in with her students daily and did her best to keep them learning. She would hold weekly Google meets with the students to let them know how much they were missed.

"Kari Chase is a dedicated educator that always goes the extra mile for students and our school community. She makes sure that all students that enter through our doors receive the best school experience possible," Ottawa Elementary Principal Stacey Denison said.

Hank entered his second year of preschool in 2021 and was so thankful to have Mrs. Chase as his teacher once again!

"She plays with me and helps me," Hank said about Mrs. Chase.

Hank's mom has seen so much improvement over the past two years, both academically and in Hank's social skills. She credits Mrs. Chase for Hank's progress.

"It is so much more than just teaching the alphabet and counting, she really cares for her students and it easily shows," said Joann Boone. "We will forever be grateful for Mrs. Chase and know that Hank will be well prepared for kindergarten next year."

Thank you, Mrs. Chase, for helping Hank and his fellow classmates Learn by Heart!

