

Indian Hill Students Spread Holiday Cheer to Cancer Patients at Sloan Kettering

Indian Hill School is embracing the spirit of giving this holiday season thanks to the efforts of Student Council President Blake Schick, who has brought back a heartwarming project that began two years ago. This year, the school is joining forces to create and deliver over 600 cheerful cards to patients at the renowned Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, offering a sense of joy and encouragement during a difficult time.

The idea first took root two years ago when Blake was a 4th-grade Student Council representative. Inspired by the care his own family had received from Sloan Kettering, Blake wanted to provide something positive to the patients, many of whom are enduring tough cancer treatments. "Sloan Kettering is important to me and my family, and I wanted to give something back," Blake shared. "I thought holiday cards would be a nice way to bring some cheer to patients who may be feeling isolated."

Initially, the Student Council was overwhelmed with charitable projects, so Blake proposed the idea to his teacher, Mrs. Gish. She eagerly supported the initiative, and the 4th-grade class created and delivered the cards to the cancer center. The response was heartwarming. "It got back to me that the cards made a positive impact on the patients' lives," Blake recalled.

Now, as Student Council President, Blake is determined to expand the project on a much larger scale. "I thought it would be great for the entire school to get involved," he said. "This year, we hope to bring cheer to over 600 patients at Sloan Kettering."

The project has gathered overwhelming support from the entire school community. At his first meeting as President, Blake presented the idea to his fellow Student Council members, and the response was immediate. "Everyone was excited to be part of something that could make such a big difference," Blake explained.

With the support of art teacher Mrs. Lane, the cards will be created during Art classes. Each Student Council representative has also spread the word to their classmates, ensuring that every student has the chance to participate. "It feels amazing to know that we're helping make people smile, especially during the holidays," Blake said.

On December 12th, Blake will personally deliver the cards to Sloan Kettering's donation manager. "It's going to be incredible to see how much joy these cards bring to people who really need it," he said with excitement. "I'm thrilled that the whole school is involved this time."

Blake hopes the project will become an annual tradition at Indian Hill School. "I'd love to keep it going every year, and we've already got ideas for other community service projects, like a clothing drive in the winter or spring," he said.

As Indian Hill School students create their cards, they are reminded of the power of small acts of kindness, and how they can make a big difference in the lives of others. With Blake's leadership and the support of the entire school community, the students of Indian Hill are

spreading joy and showing that even in tough times, kindness and compassion can light the way.



