

Just Another Teacher Workday



It was a teacher workday and while our school was closed, we took the opportunity to do more. Many thanks to a generous parent who was at the school while I was there doing what I typically do on my day off: cleaning the school. This parent was volunteering his time helping me with a special project. Wait, did I say I was cleaning the school? Well yes, because it's a great way to save money. We need that money to build our permanent school, so I clean to streamline our costs. But it gets better. Our amazing teacher Andrew Hano came up with an end-of-day list of clean-up duties that build responsibility and citizenship skills in our scholars. One student is in charge of vacuuming, another empties the trash, older kids sanitize the tables. These responsibilities teach our scholars skills they will use throughout their lives, plus they are involved in a solution that helps their school, and, better yet, we teach AND we save money. Super cool, huh? Of course, I always come in on weekends to do the deep cleaning. Many thanks to Ginny and Ed Jones of Clean Break, our wonderful provider who helps me out on the days I just can't make it. The Jones family is a huge advocate and supporter of the school. But, I digress. Back to my story...



So, while I was working on administrative items that day, I had an opportunity to spend some great time talking with that parent as I watched him assemble our garden boxes. He shared his personal joy in teaching his son how to use some of the smaller hand tools and machinery he uses around the house. He told me he hoped one of the qualities his son would understand is the fact that before you can become a boss you must first master the skills of your trade. Isn't that wicked cool and so absolutely perfect? He also said, only after you have mastered your trade can you expect respect from your employees. It was at that moment that I wanted to high-five that parent and shout out "TEACH-IT!" (both of which I did NOT do because he was too busy working, and I was certain my over-enthusiastic scream would get us both hurt!).

Once all the garden boxes were fully assembled for our beekeeping and pollination project (in record time!), he shared that he was really excited about and appreciated that our scholars were going to get to learn how much goes into getting something to grow from nothing—and that was why he was volunteering his time that day. I'm so grateful for the wholeness and fullness of our approach to learning—it's bottom-up and top-down. Check out our awesome volunteer parent here. Thank you, Mr. O'Connor, for your hard work. It takes a village. But at BHI Academy, we say it this way: Our school community works because we respect the fortress: It is where children, teachers, parents, and community all work and thrive together.



**Need more information
about BHI Academy?**

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