

Downers North students give back to Good Sam workers

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DOWNERS GROVE – Students in the Downers Grove North High School marching band gave back to the community Oct. 21 by giving a catered lunch to staff members at Cancer Care Center at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital.

Brayer Teague, fine arts department chair at Downers Grove North, said the school celebrates Breast Cancer Awareness Month every October by raising money and donating it to cancer research.

Teague said this year they wanted to give back locally to people who make a difference in the cancer community.

Teague and Bill Miller, the school's marching band director, decided they had a local connection to the cancer center. Pattie DePeder, secretary of the fine arts department, went through cancer treatments at the hospital in September and October 2014.

Students sold pink bandanas during a football game Oct.

16. They used the money they raised to buy a catered lunch Oct. 21 from Weber Grill for staff at the Cancer Care Center.

Eight marching band students passed out thank-you cards to the staff for their work. Teague was very excited about the lunch and the work the students did.

"I'm really proud of them for developing a worldly view that realizes it's important to say thank you to someone else," he said.

Miller said the students always shock him with their generosity during these events. Students had been planning this lunch for a couple weeks.

"They're really just awesome, generous, giving people," Miller said.

DePeder, who knows several of the students who are aides in the fine arts office, said she was very proud of the students for what they did.

"I think it is awesome. These student have the ability to embrace what is going on in the real world," she said. "Being able to say thank you to them is incredible."



Marching band students from Downers Grove North High School honor Cancer Care Center staff at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital with a catered lunch to thank them for their work helping people with cancer.

Photo provided