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NEWS

March 10, 2016 – Bessie Weller a Winner in Video Contest

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BESSIE WELLER A WINNER IN VIDEO CONTEST

Bessie Weller Elementary School is a first place finalist in the Lights, Camera, Breakfast Video Contest sponsored by Action for Healthy Kids. The announcement was made in conjunction with National School Breakfast Week, recognized this year during the week of March 7-11. The school will receive a prize of \$1,000, which will be used in the school's health and wellness programming.

School Nutrition Supervisor, Amanda Warren, became aware of the video contest and worked with Mrs. Dori Walk, Executive Director of Instruction and Principal of Bessie Weller Elementary School, the school staff and students to create a video depicting the students' excitement over the new "Breakfast in the Classroom" (BIC) program. Their video, "Breakfast Fills Your Brain, Just Watch," can be seen on: the school division's website (www.staunton.k12.va.us), Bessie Weller Elementary School's website, SCS-TV (local cable channel 13), the Staunton City Schools Facebook page, and the website for Action for Healthy Kids at www.actionforhealthykids.org/events/lights-camera-breakfast. "It is exciting to see our students and staff celebrating such a great start to our mornings! I am proud to have a successful breakfast program at our school," said Mrs. Walk.

With a vision of seeing every kid healthy, active and ready to learn, Action for Healthy Kids, based in Chicago, Illinois, states on their website that their mission is to "mobilize school professionals, families and communities to take actions that lead to healthy eating, physical activity and healthier schools where kids thrive." Staunton City Schools' School Nutrition Program has worked very hard this year to align with this mission. "In a collaborative effort between the School Nutrition Program, administrators and staff, we have been able to increase student access to breakfast by offering alternate breakfast service models at four of our schools," said Mrs. Warren. "By doing so, we have increased our overall participation in the school breakfast program. We continue our efforts to broaden accessibility and to raise awareness of the importance of every student starting their day with a well-balanced and nutritionally-sound meal -- so that they are fueled to be alert learners, active participants and overall healthy citizens of our school community."

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