

BHS Students Entering Military Recognized by Burnsville Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

Burnsville Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (BTYR) recognized Burnsville High School seniors May 22 who have made military commitments during a Burnsville City Council meeting and at a reception at the Dan Patch American Legion in Savage.

Nine students from Burnsville, Eagan and Savage have made commitments – two to the U.S. Marine Corps, three to the U.S. Army and four to the Minnesota Army National Guard.

They include:

- U.S. Marines: Zachary Schultz of Savage and Nathan Schumacher of Savage.
- U.S. Army: Seth Merrill of Burnsville, Perry Appau of Burnsville, and Hussein Ruto of Burnsville.
- Minnesota Army National Guard: Jake Naumann of Eagan, Garrett Schrupp of Rosemount, Jackson Gray of Savage, and Brock Latvala of Savage.

Mike Huddleston, coordinator for Burnsville BTYR, said this is the third year the organization has honored BHS students to congratulate them for making a commitment to serve their community and country. “This is a very honorable endeavor that we feel should be acknowledged and celebrated before you leave to begin your military training,” he said, “I also want to recognize and thank the families of these young folks for letting us borrow them to go to boot camp so that they can represent Burnsville, Eagan and Savage and our country.”

During the City Council meeting, the students were given a \$75 gift card and a gift bag with sundry items, including a chocolate bar, as a nod to the military members of the past who often found “John Wayne Bars,” in their K-rations, an individual daily combat food ration introduced during World War II; and a protein bar, which is a nod to today’s military, which receives MRE rations.

The Burnsville VFW, Burnsville American Legion, Burnsville Lions, Burnsville BTYR, Two Eagles Marine Detachment – Marine Corps League and Dan Patch American Legion provided donations in support of the student recognition. A reception for the students and their families was held at the Dan Patch American Legion in Savage, where students were provided with complimentary one-year memberships and American flags.

BTYR is a state-wide network of a diverse group of citizens and community leaders uniting key areas within local communities to leverage existing support activities, build awareness, and act to recognize and support veterans, service members and military families.

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(photo below)



Photo courtesy of the City of Burnsville

Three of the nine Burnsville High School students who are entering the military posed for a picture with members of the Burnsville City Council, Burnsville Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, and representatives from the city of Savage, city of Burnsville, and Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District