



West Central 3rd Graders Complete Our City

Francesville -- Congratulations to Miss Ray's 3rd Graders at West Central Elementary who recently completed Junior Achievement's Our City program!

The Junior Achievement *Our City* program considers economic development, local businesses and career opportunities. The program complements what the children are currently studying in class. These 3rd graders discovered a variety of businesses that can be found in a typical city, became more aware of the types of workers businesses require and the contributions of businesses to a city, as well as realizing the importance of education for future career development. The students love learning something new and "real-life" through all the different and fun activities!



Miss Ray's 3rd Graders at West Central Elementary School. Back Left is Chassidy Sparks, Alliance Bank Loan Assistant and Junior Achievement Volunteer. Back Right is Shane Pilarski, Alliance Bank CEO, and Junior Achievement Volunteer.

Junior Achievement curriculum is designed to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise, business, and economics to improve the quality of their lives. The Kindergarten program introduces the economic role of individuals. The 1st Grade program discusses the role of families in the local economy. 2nd Graders examine the responsibilities and opportunities available to those within a community. And 3rd Graders consider economic development, local businesses, and career opportunities. As 4th and 5th Graders, these students will study Our Region and Our Nation. Volunteers from the community are invited into the classroom to implement each 5 week program.

Alliance Bank has supported Junior Achievement for a number of years and will continue to do so. Chassidy Sparks, Alliance Bank Loan Assistant and Shane Pilarski, President/CEO of Alliance Bank, worked with Miss Ray's class. "Junior Achievement does a nice job putting together all the activity materials and lesson plans for easy classroom implementation. I had a great time with the kids and JA taught them a number of things about businesses and careers in a city. It's always a lot of fun, stated Pilarski."

For more information about Junior Achievement, log on to www.ja.org. Alliance Bank is your Real Community Bank® proudly serving the communities of Francesville, Monon, Monticello, Otterbein, Oxford, Rensselaer, Winamac and their surrounding areas.