



Staff Report

Subject: Employee Award – Officer Michael Hitchcock

Explanation:

On Thursday September 12, 2019, Officer Michael Hitchcock was named School Resource Officer of the Year by the National Law Enforcement Officer Hall of Fame in Maumee, Ohio. Officer Hitchcock was nominated for this award because of his dedication to the students at Selvidge Middle School and his commitment to the Citizens of Ballwin. The narrative for his nomination reads in part:

Mike has been a School Resource Officer at Selvidge Middle School, in the Rockwood School District, for the past 4 years. He goes well above and beyond his duties on a daily basis. Mike rewards students with good behavior and high grades by taking groups out to lunch at area fast food restaurants. He has developed an after school mentor program where area citizens come in and tutor students. He has set up First Responder vs student basketball games to encourage positive interactions. Mike approached his church pastor, and then recruited other local churches, to have them sponsor a hotel voucher program. Homeless people, travelling through the area, receive a voucher for a one night stay in an area motel. These vouchers have been used by women trying to get out of a domestic violence relationship. Mike also manages an emergency food pantry for families who need nourishment until their state subsidies are available. He ensured students and their families had food in their homes. Mike coordinates church volunteers who clean up yards, and do minor home repairs, so low income or elderly residents are not cited for building code violations. Mike is a 33 year veteran of the Ballwin Police Department.

Congratulations to Officer Hitchcock for your ongoing dedication to the Citizens of Ballwin.

Submitted by: Interim Chief John Bergfeld

Date: September 19, 2019
