Through a collaboration among the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley and several other organizations, businesses and volunteers, doctors administered eye exams to more than 400 YCSD scholars. Those scholars who need eyeglasses will receive two pairs, one for school and one for home.

This marks the third year for the vision program which involves United Way, Sight for All United, Classic Optical Laboratories, Inc., Essilor Vision Foundation, DentaQuest, YSU Student Nurses Association, Youngstown Lions Club, Youngstown Area Goodwill Industries, Inc., Women United Mahoning Valley and many businesses and volunteers. Thank you all for helping our scholars!

Members of Youngstown Professional Fire Fighters Local 312 distributed coats to YCSD elementary school scholars. The firefighters conducted a fundraiser to raise the money to buy the coats as a community service project. The scholars were all smiles as they received their gifts, some of which came with matching gloves, hats or headbands. We appreciated the firefighters helping our scholars!
CUTTING EDGE

Beyond Expectations Barber College spent a day this morning at McGuffey Elementary, providing free haircuts for 200 scholars. It’s the college’s Cuts for Christmas program. CEO Justin Jennings stopped by to thank BEBC representatives. The business opened this past fall at 709 E. Midlothian Blvd. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. BEBC, which also has a school in Akron, provides vocational training to enable enrollees to become masters in their field. BEBC barbers also stopped at Chaney High School before the holiday to provide haircuts for scholars. Thank you, BEBC!

TALENT ABOUNDS

Scholars throughout the Youngstown City School District showed off their artistry in their schools’ holiday programs this month. Celebrations included “A Hollywood Holiday” at East and Chaney high schools and bands, choirs, orchestras, skits and musical numbers at the elementary schools with paintings, drawings and other visual artwork at all of the schools. There is a lot of talent -- among scholars and the teachers who guide them -- at YCSD.

OF NOTE

- YCSD will no longer use two-hour delays. If the weather or travel conditions are bad, schools will be closed. Closings will be announced via robocall, local media, social media and the district website.