Jenna Kent, a second-grader at McGuffey Elementary School, shows off her Y-Bucks. School administrators, counselors and others award Y-Bucks to students who exhibit positive behavior traits. Students use the Y-Bucks to buy items from the school stores. Stuffed animals, candy, books and games are some of the available treats.

YCSD students’ good deeds and positive behavior aren’t going unnoticed. In fact, they’re being rewarded with Y-Bucks. Administrators, counselors and other school personnel award Y-Bucks to students who exhibit positive behavior. Lindsay DeVecchio, counselor at McGuffey Elementary School, said students earn the rewards for following the school’s expectations for being respectful, responsible, engaged and safe. They use the Y-Bucks to “buy” items from the school stores including books, school supplies, cologne, candy and stuffed animals.

Jenna Kent, a McGuffey second-grader, used her earnings to buy fake fingernails. She’s saving to make another purchase soon.

DeVecchio and Danielle Mordocco, another McGuffey counselor, say the initiative, launched districtwide, is improving school climate.
Golden Bears selected to All-Conference

Eight East Golden Bear football players were selected as All-Conference first and second team members.

The players were selected by coaches of Mahoning Valley teams who recognized their skills and accomplishments this season.

The students selected to first team all-conference are seniors Will Howard, offensive and defensive lineman, and Ilijah Donley, tight-end/defensive end; and junior Chris Fitzgerald, offensive and defensive lineman.

The players selected to the second team all-conference are seniors Carlos Jones, wide receiver/defensive back, and Tavaris Shaw, defensive end; juniors Marcus Finkley, running back/defensive back, and Dawan Martin, offensive and defensive lineman; and sophomore Eddie Bryant, running back/linebacker.

We’re very proud of you and of the whole Golden Bears team.

Congratulations!

Way to go!!
Third-graders at McGuffey Elementary School decorated cards for victims of the hurricanes that ravaged parts of Texas this fall. Tracey Dawson, who works at McGuffey through The Red Zone, organized the effort with Divine Love Ministries. That agency worked with the Ohio State Penitentiary where inmates quoted scriptures inside the cards. Third-graders used their artistic skills to beautify the front and back of the cards. McGuffey seventh and eighth-graders then wrote messages of encouragement to the inmates. The cards were loaded into a truck that left the city earlier this week, making stops across the state to pick up additional items for the hurricane victims.

Dawson said the project was a group effort involving teachers, McGuffey Principal Cathy Dorbish, The Red Zone and outside organizations. “Principal Dorbish was very supportive of it,” Dawson said. Hurricane Harvey pounded Houston and other parts of Texas in late August chasing people from their homes as heavy rains and high winds wreaked havoc. It was the most powerful hurricane to hit the United States in about a decade. Harvey damage totals were estimated at about $200 billion.

400 expected to gobble up Harding holiday meal

Harding Elementary School is preparing Thanksgiving dinner for 400. The family feast will run during lunch times Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the school. Families are invited to eat with their children. Dinner for kindergarten through second-graders runs from 11:15 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m., third and fourth-graders will feast and from 12:50 to 1:15 p.m., the fifth-through-eighth-graders will eat.

This marks the second year Harding has served the holiday meal to students and their families. It’s a team effort. About 10 turkeys were donated for the event and the school is providing potatoes, water and juice. Each grade is chipping in to cover dessert, canned corn, green beans, plates, napkins and cutlery.