Midland~ teachers bring some holiday cheer to their students' doorstops

   | BeaverCountyTimes~

MIDLAND — It might be beginning to look a lot like Christmas, but the pandemic has made it a little hard to deck the halls with the usual fervor.

Enter the staff of the Midland~ School District.

"There's so much the kids and the community and people look forward to this time of year, and so much has been changed or postponed or canceled," said SeanTanner~, superintendent at Midland~. "It's a season of giving and a season of cheer, and we wanted to make sure that they know that this time of year, Christmas and the holidays, is not canceled and is still going on."

The staff at Midland~ School District decorated their cars with lights and convinced the man with the big red sack to join them on a drive throughout the community Monday night. The teacher parade was designed to lift the spirits of Midland~'s student body, which has been in virtual classes since just before Thanksgiving when BeaverCounty~ reached a substantial community spread of COVID19~.

But Tanner said what he found was that it did more than just put smiles on the faces of children, but spread holiday joy in the entire community.

"What this brought back to all of us was the injection of Christmas that we all needed this year," Tanner said. "In the process of doing this to bring cheer to the students of Midland~, we saw so many adults and the elderly community that came out and made it an event. It brought cheer to them as well, with people waving and cheering from the windows even on the second floor of their homes."

Tanner said there was "100~" participation from the staff in the Christmas parade.

"What our staff does wonderfully is love on kids, and our kids need that," Tanner said. "I can't stress enough that for our little school, this sense of family is so important and starts with our school board. They've created a culture that is one of family and of doing right by the children of this community."