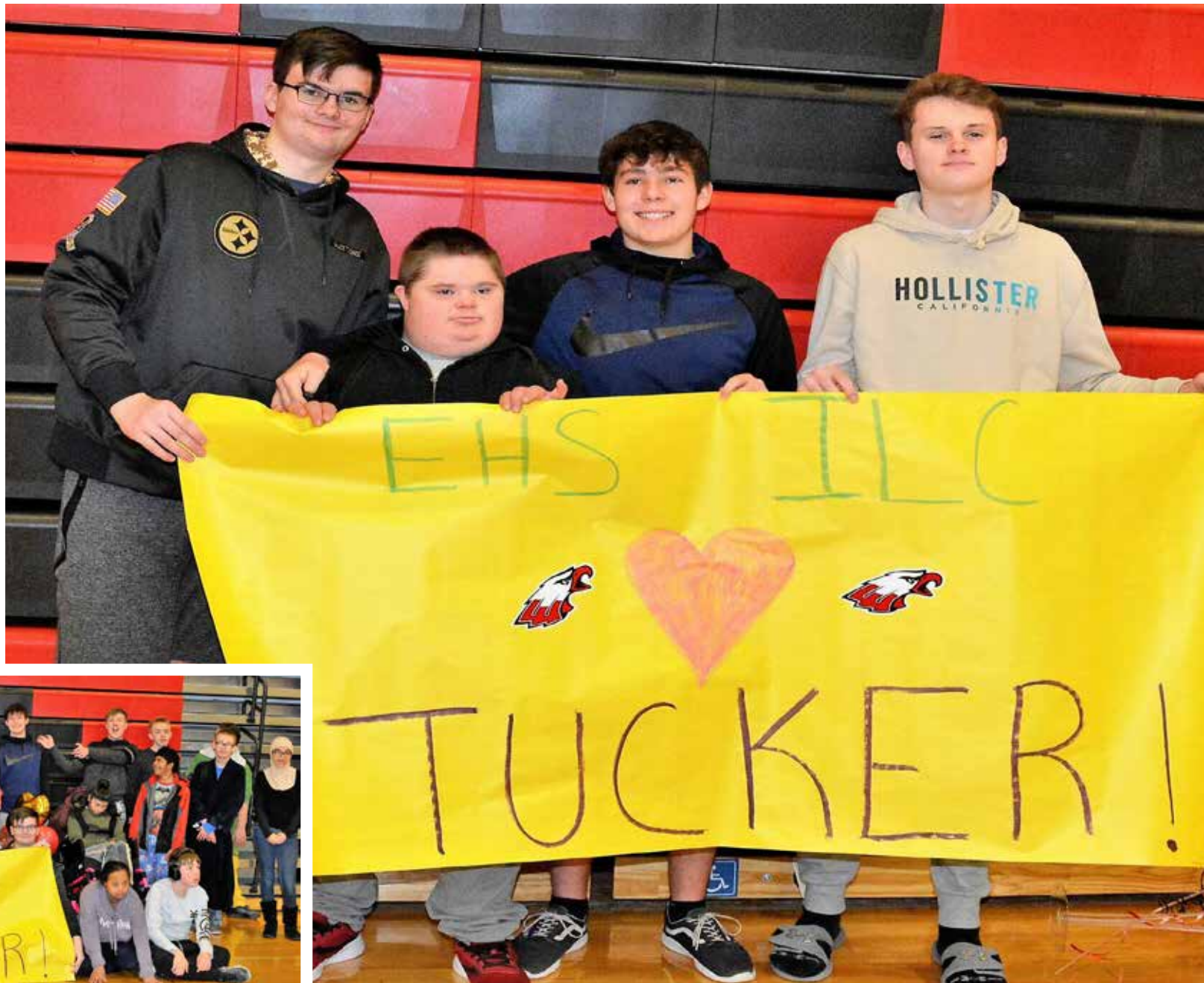


JOINING THE CLUB Tucker Beard '21 just found out he was a Golden Heart recipient, joining Lucas Ingraham '21 and Jacob Ingraham '20 who received the award previously.

A HELPING HAND Tucker Beard '21 helps Caitlyn Masters '20 and the red team during an intense game of Kickball during P.E.

EVERYONE'S HERO The ILC kids surprised Beard during his P.E. class to let him know he had been selected as one of the Cherry Creek School District's Golden Heart Recipients.



Coverage by Emmerson Hagan, photos by Trent Monahan



DECA Rocks State

Brooklyn Rhyby '21

"I loved my experience overall. Of course there were some moments of doubt but standing on that stage and hearing our names announced made all of the work worth it. I had a great time with my friends and the decra family."



Katelyn Moose '21

"My experience with DECA over all was one of the best experiences of my high school career! I went to state last year and it was crazy to see how much progress my partner and I gained within a year. It was definitely one of the best feelings standing up on that stage. DECA has changed my high school life for the better!"



Gavin Edwards '21

"I think DECA is unique compared to other clubs because of how useful the skills you learn are. The entire program is based around the things you need to be successful in your future career, so the work you put into DECA will also benefit you outside the program. I enjoyed being able to develop my business skills while also having fun with the other members."



David Akpokiere '20

"It was a very transformative experience. I got to network with several students all throughout Colorado. Of course, it was also nice staying at a five star, five diamond hotel. Nothing beats the feeling of seeing my fellow DECA members succeed."



Carlos Adames '20

"I thought it was a really great experience for us because we became close as a DECA family. And it was also a great way to make new friends."



Sean Hurley '21

"I really enjoyed the experience. Going to the competitions and being able to get to know the other kids in DECA. I would really recommend DECA to anyone who has interest in business."



Coverage by Emmerson Hagan, Photos courtesy by Brittny Blecher

A Heart of Gold

Tucker Beard receives the CCDS Golden Heart award for his work in ILC

The Golden Heart is an award that around 20 students, staff and faculty in the Cherry Creek school District receive every school year. It is an award for people who have gone above and beyond for students with special needs.

Tucker Beard '21 was the third Eaglecrest student to be given this award along with to Jake and Luke Ingraham, who won the award last year.

Being a part of the ILC program means to be a team, working together, helping each other, making the best of everyday, and this is why Beard was recognized this year.

"I love their willingness to include everyone, not even just myself I've many of our students who are 'veterans' with our athletics program step up and teach those who haven't been involved for as long," Beard said. He finds that the students are selfless and always find a way to share with others, whether that be a ball or a helping hand.

Over the countless moments they spend together, they are always showing what the Raptor Way is all about. Even when anyone is nervous around new people, they always find the courage to go out and meet new people, make new friends, really stepping out of their comfort zone.

"Specific moments that have stood out are even as simple as in 1B Adaptive PE their willingness to talk to someone during our group time in which they have never spoken but just to reach out to them and be there as a friend," Beard said. Beard shows that he really admires that the students he works with everyday really know how to connect with anyone, making the ILC a safe and trusting place.

Being a part of the ILC program has affected many aspects of Beard's life. "My involvement in both athletics and the classroom, I've seen many students create opportunities for themselves."

And those experiences are that much better with this group of students. "When we won our Flag football state championship, I've never seen a group of kids so ecstatic about their situation," Beard said.

Keeping Eaglecrest a safe and accepting place, Beard knows the school must treat everyone with kindness and equity. "I personally love our students. I see them as such an amazing group of kids with the biggest hearts," Beard said. "I hope none of them experience any harm and I hope everyone in the school can help stand up if you see any of our kids being picked on or bullied, just you standing up for them may give them the strength to stand up for themselves."

Love of the Game

Adaptive PE class offers students a chance to learn more than the game

As part of the Adaptive P.E. program, peers go to the class, dressed out to play like the students. In the class, they help students with extra needs learn how to play the games and provide support as they navigate their way around the gym. Students play games like Kickball, basketball, volleyball and more, and they focus on providing all students leadership opportunities like leading stretches and picking teams.



LEARNING THE GAME Lucas Ingraham '21 is going over the game with Cindy Shaffer '20 as they develop a strategy to win.

READY TO KICK Cole Dohojda '22 is ready and waiting for his turn to kick.

BATTER UP Samuel Senay '22 watches the ball as it is pitched to him so he can get a solid kick and run the bases.



Coverage and Photos by Trent Monahan

"I love to see them succeed—I'm in the classroom, around them for 3 and a half hours a day I just want to see them get to the next step."

Tucker Beard '21

083

Golden Heart

Designed by Trent Monahan