

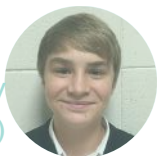
WHERE YOU LEAVE YOUR SANTA SNACKS

JIMMIA GRAHAM (7)



"I leave them on a table in my dining room."

ANDREW WILKINS (9)



"I put them above my fireplace."

KIRA PORTER (11)



"I leave them on a tray by the Christmas tree."

ALL THERE

While placing her bookbag in the collection room, Sammie Arnsdorff (10), looks around and sees many backpacks done. "I was surprised that there was so many and I wasn't expecting so see so many." Arnsdorff said. The students went to Walmart to buy items for backpacks for children in Appalachia. Photo by Haley Burke.



Students raced through Walmart, rushing to get essential items to fill backpacks. They threw toys, clothing, and school supplies into carts and hurried off to get more items.

They wandered throughout the store, searching for items kids would enjoy that fit a student budget. Each homeroom had a set number of backpacks to fill and limited time to shop, so students worked swiftly to get the necessities.

The high school staggered trips to the store, with each grade overlapping their shopping with another. The freshmen were the first to shop and had first pick of everything they needed in the store.

"[Michael Williams (9) and I] bought a football, action figures, and a drawing notebook for a ten to fourteen year old boy," Jacob Strickland (9) said. "The most important thing to put in [the backpack] was the football. At that age, most boys are active and it gives them something to do."

As the freshmen checked out and loaded back on the buses, the senior class began shopping. They kept in mind the age and gender they were shopping for in order to get the appropriate backpack fillers.

"I shopped for a girl two to four years old," Emmy Tenney (12) said. "I think shopping for the backpacks opens the students' eyes and shows them there are other people in the world that are in need of help."

After each grade finished shopping, they returned to their home-rooms to begin filling their backpacks. The students knew shopping for the Backpacks for Appalachia program was important and would hopefully have a positive effect on the children receiving the backpacks.

"[Backpacks for Appalachia] gives us a chance to help kids in need and give them a good Christmas," Marissa Tabakian (11) said. "I hope it will show the kids that people care about them and want them to give them a good Christmas."

Story by Avery Householder.



CHRISTMAS OF CARING

Design by Colton Taylor.

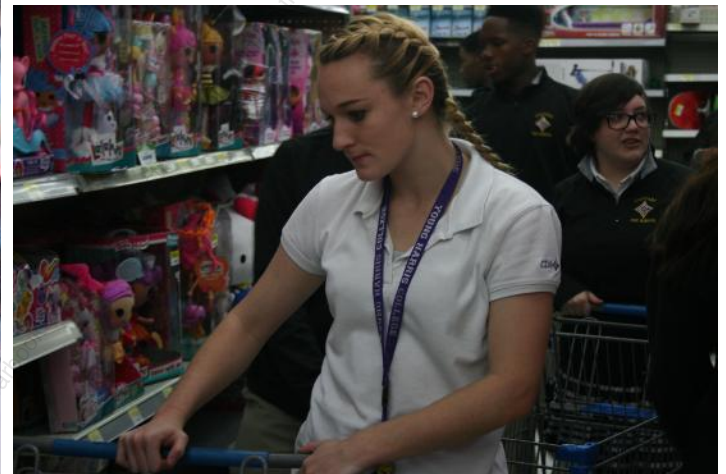
STUDENTS SHOP TO FIND PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN WITH BACKPACKS FOR APPALACHIA



THIS ONE
 Searching through items, Coco Xu (10) and Doris Zhao (10) pick items they will use for their backpacks. "We were mainly looking for toys and hygiene products," Xu said. The students bought items for their backpacks that were given children in Appalachia. *Photo by Haley Burke.*



CHECK IT
 Logan Lawson (8) finishes putting the final items into his backpack. "I was mainly looking for teddy bears and dolls for the two to four year olds," Lawson said. The students placed all the items they bought and placed them in backpacks for the children. *Photo by Brandon Brooks.*



LOOKING FOR THE ONE
 Walking down the Walmart aisle, Jessica Lanier (12) looks for the right gift to give the child her backpack is going to. "We had the little girl and we were looking for little princess toys, blankets, and health supplies." Lanier said. All of the students went to Walmart on October 26. *Photo by Avery Householder.*



THIS IS IT
 Looking through a stack of towels at Walmart, Chloe Maier (9) decides which one she will use for her backpack. "I was really just looking for necessary things used in their everyday life," Maier said. The students bought items with their money to provide items for the backpacks. *Photo by Bailey Strickland.*

THE KEY NECESSITIES

STUDENTS SHARE ITEMS BOUGHT FOR BACKPACKS



COLE CARSWELL (9)
 "Toothbrush and toothpaste."



JACKIE COATES (9)
 "A little stuffed horse."



JUSTIN LITTLES (11)
 "A soap bar."