

BILL BURCH

SCHOLARSHIP AND RECOGNITION
BREAKFAST



Za-Ga-Zig Shrine Temple
April 3, 2026

"Excellence Is Our Goal"

Southeast Polk High School

Program

Welcome and Recognition of GuestsSteve Pettit

Breakfast

Introduction of SpeakerJessica Nolting

AddressPaige Blackford

Presentation of Recognition Awards

Lanny Brand Counselor

Amy Daugherty Counselor

Kari Fast Counselor

Michelle Feldmann Counselor

Jessica Nolting..... Counselor

Valerie Powell Counselor

Presentation of the Bill Burch Humanitarian Award

Closing Remarks Steve Pettit

Featured Speaker

Paige Blackford

2019 Bill Burch Humanitarian Award Recipient



Paige graduated from Southeast Polk High School in 2019. During her time at Southeast Polk, she participated in track, cross country, National Honor Society, DECA, and many other clubs and organizations.

During high school, Paige was recruited to run for the University of Nebraska-Omaha, and she continued her academic and athletic journey there, graduating in the summer of 2022 with a degree in Criminal Justice.

She pursued a masters degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, leading to a role with military intelligence. Paige continues to set her own path and is a firm believer in the value of education and importance of investing in yourself and discovering your passions in life.



Seniors

Ebelechukwu Agu

Liam Fields

Tyler Aldrich

Cohen Fuller

Norah Bachman

Gabriel Gituma

Brett Bergman

Peyton Haacke

Mia Blackford

Emma Hageman

Roric Boer

Kennedy Harris

Grady Braunschweig-Norris

Payton Hazelton

Elyse Carlson

Gavin Heckler

Ella Cochran

Ava Hennigar

James Cortes

Adalynne Holland

Meghan Cunningham

Emersyn Hulbert

Allison Etnyre

Averleigh Jelsma

Luca Fenton

Ximena Jurado

Seniors

Bella Justice

Cole Skinner

Isaac Kinney

Alexis Steele

Lilly Knight

Ezzra Van De Krol

Jeter Knutson

Grace Vandehaar

Mallory Lovejoy

Avery VanZante

Ava Miller

Kate Wahman

Joshua Moberg

Aiden Walker

Isabel Powers

Connor Warner

Anyia Schlatter

Isabela Webb

Gabriella Severs

Brady Weigel

Jaelynn Sherman

Emma Wiederstein

Tyler Simpson

Brooke Williams

Juniors

Caitie Archibald

Kara Lindsay

Emory Braunschweig-Norris

Kathryn Nau

Kaeleigh Britt

Cassandra Nolte

Ainsley Brunner

Jadyn O'Brien

Lillian Corwin

Sophie Pearson

Keelyn DeVries

Mya Pixler-Knight

Alivia Groen

Eric Sanders

Contessa Guerrero-Jones

Dominic Schulte

Emilia Hamel

Ash Sinnwell

Piper Hanson

Brady Stairs

Eliza Heaberlin

Kailee Thamontri

Lillian Herrick

Claire Touney

Mandy Inman

Leslie Tran

Max Johnson

Noah White

Bailey Kain

Noah Wright

Sophomores

Makayla Allen

Ashleigh Munnecke

Ty Brinkmeier

Ivy Ohorilko

Eleanor Capper

Mya Osore

Jonathan Dinh

Avery Otte

Jordan Evans

Mimosa Pham

Lauren Foster

Taylor Potratz

Rosemary Heaberlin

Allie Schlickbernd

Chloe Kephart

Myla Serck

Tabitha Mauss

Josephine Smith

Porter McClure

Zoe Woolums

Bill Burch Humanitarian Award Winners

2025 – Sophia Juhler
2024 – Spencer Olesen
2023 – Maci Kincaid
2022 – Myah Shipley
2021 – Patrick Tunks
2020 – Mariah Kacer
2019 – Paige Blackford
2018 – Luke Williams
2017 – Jackson Cole
2016 – Sydney Rosenboom
2015 – Jacey Huinker
2014 - Jessica Cole
2013 - Mackenzie West
2012 - Mackenzie Bills
2011 - Kelsey Duff
2010 - Jared Barkley
2009 - Christopher Jessen
2008 - Tyler Duff
2007 - Zach Ballard
2006 - Kirby Norris
2005 - Sadie Bartling
2004 - Kayla Boyd
2003 - Tony Ross
2002 - Chuck Howald
2001 - Andrew Reed
2000 - Nick Boyd
1999 - Meggan Juhl
1998 - Chad Johnson
1997 - Jeremy Peterson
1996 - Christopher Van Fosson
1995 - Heather Murken
1994 - Jacob Hamlin
1993 - Heather Keeling

A Tradition of Excellence

The Annual Scholarship and Recognition Breakfast was first organized in 1985. The purpose of the event is to honor 100 of our high school students for outstanding scholastic achievement.

We have been fortunate to have some of Iowa's foremost educators and leaders serve as speakers. They represent the Spirit of Renaissance and tradition of excellence associated with this event.

2025	Luke Williams.....	2018 Bill Burch Award Winner
2024	Sydney Jamison	2016 Bill Burch Award Winner
2023	MacKenzie Bills.....	2012 Bill Burch Award Winner
2022	Nick Boyd	2000 Bill Burch Award Winner
2021	Jessica Christensen	2014 Bill Burch Award Winner
2020	Event not held due to COVID	
2019	Heather Hanneman.....	1995 Bill Burch Award Winner
2018	Chuck Howald	2002 Bill Burch Award Winner
2017	Kayla Bond	2004 Bill Burch Award Winner
2016	Mark Putnam.....	President, Central College
2015	Lon Moeller.....	Associate Provost, University of Iowa
2014	Angela I. Walker Franklin.....	President, Des Moines University
2013	John C. Reynders	President, Morningside College
2012	Raynard S. Kington.....	President, Grinnell College
2011	David Maxwell.....	President, Drake University
2010	John W. Byrd.....	President, Simpson College
2009	Gary Steinke.....	President, IAICU
2008	Kent Henning	President, Grand View University
2007	Dr. David Roe	President, Central College
2006	Dr. John K. Menzies.....	President, Graceland University
2005	Mrs. Christie Vilsack.....	First Lady of the State of Iowa
2004	Dr. Jack Ohle.....	President, Wartburg College
2003	Dr. William Johnston.....	President, Iowa Wesleyan College
2002	Kim J. Linduska	DMACC Senior Vice President
2001	Kent Henning	President, Grand View College
2000	R. Kevin LaGree	President, Simpson College
1999	Dr. David Roe	President, Central College
1998	Keith Fenton.....	President, AlB College of Business
1997	Dr. Robert Koob	President, University of Northern Iowa
1996	Dr. Fredrick V, Moore	President, Buena Vista University
1995	Dr. Pamela Ferguson	President, Grinnell College
1994	No speaker due to inclement weather	
1993	Dr. Joseph A. Borgen .	President, Des Moines Area Community College
1992	Dr. William M. Wiebenga	President, Central College
1991	Dr. Stephen Jennings.....	President, Simpson College
1990	Dr. Constantine Curris.....	President, University of Northern Iowa



BILL BURCH

SOUTHEAST POLK COUNSELOR

1974 - 1992

We have named this breakfast in Bill's honor and present a Humanitarian Award to a student selected by faculty who best exemplifies Bill's outstanding personal qualities of sincerity and compassion toward others. He will be remembered as a man who had time to relate to students and adults alike.