

COMMUNITY NEWS



Submitted photo

Students honored in the Challenge Program Inc. are from left, front row: Catherine Cochran, Daniel Burt, Whitney Thomas, Paula Bittner, Danielle Hetrick, Paige Yutzy, Abigail Stahl and Sarah Cochran. Back row: Aaron Thomas, Meyersdale hospital representative; Abigail Kramer, Christian Tipton, Amanda Aldridge, Kayla Shaffer, Caleb Sarver, Cory Neace, Brandi Burkholder, Mary Seifert, Seth Grimm and Anna Knoblach.

Students challenged to be 'In it to Win it'

The Challenge Program Inc., a nonprofit organization which partners with business to provide high school students with incentives for success, kicked off the program for the year with an orientation assembly and awards presentation at Meyersdale Area High School.

The program partners with local businesses to motivate high school students to excel, both in and out of the classroom. This partnership creates good habits in students and provides businesses with tangible results for their investments.

Meyersdale Hospital is the school's sponsor of The Challenge Program.

On hand at the assembly to address the students was Aaron Thomas, director of marketing at Meyersdale Hospital.

Twelve students in the sophomore, junior, and senior classes who excel in the areas of attendance, academic excellence, academic improvement and community service will receive an award in the amount of \$250 for their efforts. The total amount of awards in each school totals \$3,000.

The eight underclassmen students who excelled in The Challenge Program's categories during the 2010-2011 school year were presented with their awards during the assembly. Se-

niors received their awards this past spring.

This year's orientation assembly incorporated a "Minute to Win It" theme. Student volunteers were challenged in four game challenges, which focused on each of the program's four award categories. Mary Drelisak, Director of Program Development for The Challenge Program Inc. said, "One of the great things about The Challenge Program is that students don't need to sign up to participate. The schools are tracking their performance, so they're already in it. Now it's up to each student to be in it to win it."