



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD
OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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For Immediate Release

Spring Fling Held at School of Bright Promise

STEUBENVILLE-Country boys and girls were getting down on the farm during the annual Spring Fling at the School of Bright Promise on May 2.

Seventy-five special needs students from Bright Promise, Weir and Oak Glen High Schools gathered in the Steubenville school's gym for music, food and fellowship. This year's festivities had the theme "Country Nights" and featured rustic decorations with a barn and artistic renderings of animals. Organizer Ryan Finney, a secondary instructor at Bright Promise, said it allowed the students to interact in a fun atmosphere.

Students had a chance to don jeans, flannel and related garb and enjoy dancing and karaoke with DJ Richie Coburn, plus they enjoyed lunch and camaraderie. Members of Bright Promise's student advocacy group selected the theme while student volunteers from Weir and Oak Glen also assisted at the event. Finney added that it was a great way for the special needs students to commune with their peers.

"It's just to get them to interact with students from other schools and have a fun day," he said. "We have people attend each year and they remember each other."

A few of the young attendees said they were excited about participating in the event.

"It's pretty good," said Zachary Stutler, a freshman at Weir. "You get to dance and see people you haven't seen in a long time."

"It's good," added Logan Briggs, a secondary student at Bright Promise. "I liked dancing and I got to sing. I made new friends. This was a really good time and I had a blast."

Previous events were held by an organization based at Franciscan University until 2015, when the School of Bright Promise took it over. Past venues were held in Weirton, Bethany, and Steubenville while Steubenville High School students have also participated.

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(Photo Cutline: Logan Briggs, a secondary student at the School of Bright Promise, shows off his moves during the annual Spring Fling at the school on May 2. Seventy-five special needs students enjoyed dancing, karaoke and camaraderie and included pupils from Bright Promise, Weir and Oak Glen High Schools.)

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