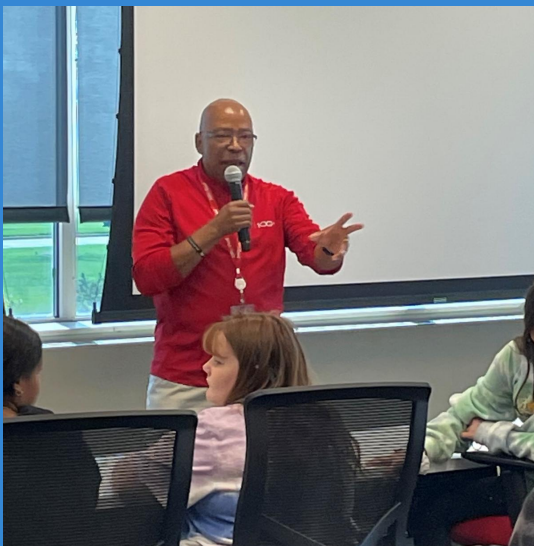




## "Opening Doors" for 5th Grade Students



**Jerome Maddox, corporate responsibility analyst at State Farm interacts with Pepper Ridge students.**



**Pepper Ridge 5th graders learn about technology and related careers from STEM volunteers.**

As part of the "Opening Doors" program sponsored by Promise Council, 5th graders from Pepper Ridge visited State Farm's b'link facility on Tuesday, April 18th. The Opening Doors program was created to help fifth grade students envision their futures in ways they may not have considered. The possibilities of attaining a higher education, potential careers, and vocational skills are introduced. "Social and Emotional Learning Competencies" are also discussed to provide students with real tools to be their best self.

While at b'link the more than 50 students were split into 3 different rotations to hear more about State Farm and how they work with communities across the nation, including Bloomington/Normal and all of McLean County. They also heard from STEM volunteers about technology and related careers that help all of us achieve more. Finally they were provided the opportunity to give back and help others as they assembled hygiene kits to be used by other Promise Council schools.

It was a great morning of listening to what was on their minds and answering a host of

questions about State Farm, the STEM program, and opportunities for them to give of their time to help others.

## 100 Caring Adults

We are beginning to plan for our 100 Caring Adults events which take place during the 2023-2024 school year.

Fourteen Promise Council Schools started this school year cheering on and encouraging students as they returned to school.

Promise Council schools are being contacted to finalize dates before summer break. During the summer, the Caring Adults committee will invite and coordinate community members such as police, fire, school boards, city administration, and university athletics to all events. Please [contact us](#) if you would like to be part of the committee.



## Grateful For Mondo's Mission



Last month we told you about the donation the BJHS Promise Council received from Mondo's Mission, a local non-profit established to carry on Monte Rink's legacy of support to the Bloomington-Normal community. Their generous \$2,000 donation, helped stock our Raider's Resource Room with over 800 items, including, undergarments, sweat pants, leggings, deodorant, etc. THANK YOU again, Mondo's Mission for your generosity!

## Message from the Board

**SHARING OUR STORY** Spring is known as a time for rebirth and growth, and the month of April brought several opportunities for Promise Council to plant seeds of friendship. On April 13 and 19, State Farm's Bloomington Link Center (b'link™)\* invited us to participate in its annual Non-Profit Fair. From 11 to 1 each day, board members Irma Bantista and Karen Hanson and volunteers

Garry Hendricks and Mary Litwiller manned a table at State Farm's Corporate Atrium and Illinois Operation Center Atrium to share our story with employees.

This event gave us and several other local nonprofits an opportunity to present an overview of our organization, discuss what we do within the community, and outline volunteer opportunities available to State Farm employees. Over the course of two days, several employees completed volunteer cards indicating their desire to help us help kids. We are grateful to our long-time partner for allowing us to share our story in this way.

On April 27th, Promise Council was invited to speak to members of the Bloomington Rotary Club about our mission, vision, and passion for helping children in Central Illinois. Twenty to thirty members shared a meal at Second Presbyterian Church as they listened to Linda Bowman outline the history of the organization, the importance of community partners and the many ways volunteers can support our work. Sharing our story allows us to expand our reach and we are anxious to watch as these seeds take root and bloom into beautiful new partnerships.

\*b'link is one of several Link Centers created by State Farm® to demonstrate their priority to focus on the work environment and engage employees and retirees so they can be their personal best. The Link Centers were established to serve as a differentiator for State Farm in the communities in which we reside, and to strengthen employee and retiree engagement. Four teams work from physical centers to focus on creating a welcoming environment to grow, connect and volunteer with one another, and our community.

b'link is located at the north east corner of the Illinois Operation Center at 2702 Ireland Grove Rd, Bloomington, IL 61709

Volunteer with us!

## Promise Council

1701 E. Empire St. STE 360-#286  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
[www.promisecouncil.org](http://www.promisecouncil.org)



Promise Council of McLean County | 1701 E. Empire St. 360-#286, Bloomington, IL 61704

[Unsubscribe contactus@promisecouncil.org](mailto:Unsubscribe_contactus@promisecouncil.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [contactus@promisecouncil.org](mailto:contactus@promisecouncil.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!