

K-9 Grizz and Officer Hendrickson

It is hard to believe that Grizz and I are in the middle of our third school year.

Walking down the hallways of our Wautoma Schools (4 of them), I am constantly reminded of the honor it is to work with K-9 Grizz. Without fail, as K-9 Grizz struts by the students during passing periods or we are teaching in a classroom, I see the immediate impacts on students faces. Smiles, "Hi Grizz", short pets or an extended hand to say "hi", always instantly improve a student's day.

As the K-9 handler to such a special and storied dog, I often reflect on what former handler Emily Breidenbach #614 of the Chetek Police Department EOW 04/08/2023 would think about what great things K-9 Grizz is accomplishing without any fanfare.

Recently, I was speaking with a principal about a student's behavior and their concern for recent "outbursts". I advised her that k-9 Grizz must have intuitively known because most of the class time, Grizz sat at the feet of this student, relaxing their mood and calming their stress level...success and "I" had no clue!

I have so many stories just like that over my time working with K-9 Grizz. It is funny, because when I look at him, thinking he is some super power dynamo dog, I smile a bit knowing that is just what "Grizz" does.

Emily, without a doubt, I know you would be SO very proud of our partner Grizz. He is doing such a great job of loving-on the students here at the Wautoma Area School District.

Thank you to the City of Wautoma, Police Chief Mott, Wautoma Area School District and ALL our K-9 supporters for your vision and investments. K-9 Grizz is impacting our students in ways that I can't even fathom.

Working Together,

SRO Lafe Hendrickson and K-9 Grizz