



# Brightwell's Bistro Welcomes The Clear Creek Education Foundation





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# What is Brightwell's Bistro?

**Brightwell's Bistro is a small school restaurant managed by special education students from the Alternative Academics classroom at Goforth Elementary School. Supervision is provided by a multi-disciplinary team.**



# What is Alternative Academics?

**A special education class which consists of students who have disabilities and special needs due to their wide range of learning abilities and performance levels.**



# The Multi Disciplinary Team

This team includes 3 teachers each one providing a specific service to our children.

They are:

- Marie Woods-Petitti – Occupational Therapist
- Susan McMahan – Speech Therapist
- Julie Brightwell – Alternative Academics Teacher



# The Multi Disciplinary Team

- \*Developed and implemented a “hands on” approach to teaching our students ways to acquire the necessary skills to live in the world today.**
- \*All learning is supported by academic vertical alignment to the Texas Education Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) objectives and a functional living curriculum.**





# How Did It All Begin?

- **We started more than 7 years ago.**
- **The Occupational Therapist and Speech Therapist thought it would be a great learning experience to prepare a meal for the special education staff. Since it was during the Houston Rodeo, we decided to make children.**
- **Students created the shopping list, made the chili and served lunch to the special education teachers**
- **It was such a great success the students decided to call this yearly event Brightwell's Bistro  
.....thus our beginning.**



# The Big Picture

***Simply put ..... we wanted to teach our special needs students how to create and run a small restaurant on the Goforth Campus.***

# Our Integrated Goals

1. Identify and demonstrate proper use of materials and cooking equipment, to include function, safety, and care. (Science, Occupational Therapy)
2. Communicate through writing (invitations, shopping lists) and reading (recipes, customer orders). (Language Arts)
3. Demonstrate appropriate behaviors on Community Based Instruction Trips. (Personal Health, Speech, Social Studies)
4. Learn how to make calculations for recipes, and supplies. (Math)
5. Use appropriate politeness markers such as: please, thank-you, and you're welcome. (Speech)
6. Plan and prepare nutritionally balanced food. (Science)
7. Maintain a clean and sanitary environment for food preparation. (Science)



# Our Next Steps.....

**Brightwell's Bistro was growing fast. We were having great success but equipment, supplies and funds were running low. The children loved planning and preparing for the Bistro and would have been heart broken if we were unable to continue. We wanted to expand the number of Bistro's we could have throughout our school year.**

**Enter.....The Clear Creek Education Foundation Teacher Innovative Grant Program.**



# The Clear Creek Education Foundation – Innovative Teacher Grant

**Brightwell's Bistro has been fortunate enough to receive The Clear Creek Education Foundation Innovative Teacher Grant for these school years: 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011. We have been awarded a total of \$5,189 in Grant funds.**



# The Innovative Teacher

## Grant has:

1. **Given our students a “hands on” approach to help them acquire the necessary skills to live in our world today.**
2. **Introduced them to potential post – graduate vocations in food service occupations.**
3. **Taught them increased independence with activities of daily living.**



# The Innovative Teacher Grant has:

4. Helped our students to develop strong reinforcers for good behavior.
5. Increased their socialization skills..
6. Shown documented increase in their attention to tasks.
7. Provided multiple opportunities for them to practice the skills and behaviors necessary for carryover into various settings.



# The Innovative Teacher

## Grant has:

8. Taught the children how to get involved in “giving back” to the local community, our nation and our world.
9. Shown our students that “having fun” and helping others can go hand-in-hand.
10. Created a stronger bond between children with disabilities and non-disabled community members.



# The Innovative Teacher

## Grant has:

- 11. Given us the opportunity to deliver instructions to students in the environment in which they live and function.**
- 12. Increased their self esteem and confidence.**
- 13. Exposed them to a variety of experiences and opportunities for choice and participation.**
- 14. Helped them to function as independently as possible in many community environments.**



# The Material Things:

**We have been able to purchase... (just to name a few items)**

- Small appliances (blenders, mixers, electric can openers)**
- Digital camera, printer and supplies**
- Serving carts and trays**
- Cookware and cooking utensils**
- Table clothes, aprons, and name tags**
- Paper goods, plates, napkins, eating utensils**
- Decorating supplies for the Bistro**
- Transportation for Community Based Instruction Trips**
- Food for more than 12 Bistro's throughout the years**



*I think you can see that  
it's safe to say.....*

**Without The Clear Creek  
Education Foundation's  
Generous Grants and  
Support, Brightwell's  
Bistro would not have  
been possible!**

*Thank you!*



# Special Thanks



- Mrs. Noel and the Entire Faculty and Staff at Goforth
- Marie Woods-Petitti – Occupational Therapist
- Susan McMahan – Licensed Speech Pathologist
- Lisa Waggett – Librarian
- Our Para-Professionals
  - Amy Dugie
  - Lucy Hughes
  - Barbara Vieira

**Last but never least the children in the  
Alternative Academics Class at Goforth  
Elementary School**

