

EXEMPLARY STAFF VISION AWARDS 2022

The recipients were selected for their work in 2021-2022 based on the following criteria:

- Develops, seeks out and attends or facilitates ongoing professional development programs that reflect current research and exemplary practices, and successfully implements new learnings, and serves as a model or coach for others.
- Aggressively recruits quality staff who are committed to excellence and able to meet the diverse needs of students and community.
- Consistently seeks feedback about job performance; engages in peer coaching activities and training that supports reflection and self/peer evaluation; develops support systems to enhance professional understanding and continuous improvement; reflects and critically uses feedback for improvement.
- Is an exemplary model of the District Core Values.

ANDERSON ELEMENTARY

Shelby Roy – Library Clerk

Shelby came in as our Librarian half way through the school year. We had all but "written off" our library experience for the year and then Shelby arrived, like Mary Poppins to the rescue! She brought a zeal and energy to the position our school site has NEVER seen. She quickly got to work and re-organized our library to help support student reading. With bean bag chairs, baskets of books, and reading challenges she created - there was a buzz in the air that students could not get enough of!!! Shelby helped energize a love for reading and teachers and students could not stop talking about how happy they are to have her at Anderson. Her commitment to students and support of teachers is beyond anything we could have imagined on campus. We are so lucky to have her.

BALDWIN ELEMENTARY

Elham Khoury – Instructional Assistant

It is an honor to nominate Elham Khoury for the Exemplary Staff Vision Award. Elham continuously models and exemplifies the District Core Values. She seeks out opportunities to learn and grow as a professional. Elham is a stable part of our Baldwin SDC Preschool support team and as such is always willing to be flexible and go the extra mile to support wherever she can. We are blessed to have her as a stable part of our Baldwin Team.

Alejandro Simon - Custodian

It is an honor to nominate Alejandro Simon for the Exemplary Staff Vision Award. Alejandro, has been an outstanding addition to the Baldwin Team. He goes above and beyond to ensure a safe, clean and well maintained school site. Alejandro exemplifies not only the District Core Values, but what it truly means to be exemplary! We are honored to have him as an integral part of our Baldwin Community.

DAVIS INTERMEDIATE

Tanya Boss – Instructional Assistant

Tanya has been a wonderful support for our Davis community, staff and students. As an Instructional Assistant in our Autism classroom, she assists the Autism teacher and the program here. She helps to transition our students from activity to activity, provides support to them academically, socially and emotionally. She does this consistently and does it with such ease and all with a positive attitude. We appreciate her and what she gives to our staff and students and their parents. We are honored to have her as a Davis Raider staff member!

FROST ELEMENTARY

Anne Sanfilippo – 3rd/4th Grade Teacher

Anne Sanfilippo consistently engages in Professional Learning Community development. She strives to enhance her own professional development to support student learning.

Tiffany Yuen – 4th/5th Grade Teacher

Tiffany Yuen consistently engages in Professional Learning Community development. She strives to enhance her own professional development to support student learning.

HERMAN INTERMEDIATE AND THE ADVENTURE PROGRAM

Christina Chin – AdVenture Science and STEM Teacher

Christina develops, seeks out and attends or facilitates ongoing professional development programs that reflect current research and exemplary practices, and successfully implements new learnings, and serves as a model or coach for others. She spent her summer creating a complete scope and sequence of SEL activities for 4th grades levels for the entire school year, as well as adapted these lessons based on feedback. She does an incredible job of supporting students both inside and outside of the classroom. Christina is an exemplary model of the District Core Values.

Jennifer Lu – Science Teacher

Jen is a leader on the Herman and AdVENTURE campus. She develops support systems to enhance professional understanding and continuous improvement, and is a constant support to all staff. Jen has taken on the task of safety on campus and organizes and facilitates all safety drills and protocols, and makes sure all staff are knowledgeable about them. She is an exemplary model of the District Core Values.

INDIGO PROGRAM

Kalasea Fernandez – 2nd Grade Teacher

Kalasea is an equity minded educator who consistently seeks feedback on her practice and offers ideas and solutions to her colleagues to ensure that all students feel valued, heard, and learn - not only in her classroom, but throughout our school. She has been instrumental in establishing and sustaining the DEIB committee at our school which has brought about our current anti-bias work. Her classroom is inclusive of all students and families and is a place where students develop positive self-concepts about themselves as well as value the diversity of their classmates.

Elysabeth Queffelec – Health Clerk

Elysabeth has done a phenomenal job adjusting to the health needs and protocols of our community over the past few years. She has consistently maintained a can-do attitude even during the ever-changing Covid requirements and the Covid-19 surges we experienced during the 21-22 school year. She is dependable, positive, solution oriented, and community oriented. She has been a great partner to all of us on the Frost/Indigo campus!

LEDESMA ELEMENTARY

Audra Schallberger – 3rd Grade Teacher

Develops, seeks out and attends or facilitates ongoing professional development programs that reflect current research and exemplary practices, and successfully implements new learnings, and serves as a model or coach for others.

OAK RIDGE ELEMENTARY

Emmanuela Luna – 3rd Grade Teacher

Emmanuela embodies the true meaning of a lifelong learner. She constantly seeks ways to improve and expand upon her teaching practice. Most recently, after teaching the Summer STEAM Program at Stipe, Emmanuela has incorporated twice-monthly STEM projects with her grade level team. Emmanuela also embraced the need for SEL practices upon returning to in-person learning and focused her teaching around empathy. With her students, they created several empathy projects that resulted in students donating to several non-profit organizations. Emmanuela is a team player and is always willing to help anyone on staff as well as seek guidance from others. She is a mentor teacher for numerous student teachers. Emmanuela continues to grow professionally and is always willing to try new practices.

PARKVIEW ELEMENTARY

Chau Nguyen – 1st Grade Teacher

First grade teacher, Chau Nguyen, has served the Parkview Community for over three decades. Her commitment to lifelong learning means she has transformed her classroom over time to adopt new teaching practices and reflect new programs. She seeks out professional growth and looks for opportunities to learn and implement new practices in her class. Recently Chau reflected that students coming back from distance learning might excel with more engaging math activities and she embarked on a year-long research project to discover, try-out, and implement new activities to supplement the math curriculum and create a more engaging environment for her students. Chau is a valued staff member who is always willing to step up where needed, be it as our incredibly organized SST Coordinator or by making delicious bánh mì sandwiches for fundraising events. A true model of Oak Grove Core Values, it is an honor to recognize Chau Nguyen with the Oak Grove School District Vision Award for Exemplary Staff.

Rochelle Zolna – Occupational Therapist

Occupational Therapist, Rochelle Zolna, has been supporting the Oak Grove Autism Program since it first began, 16 years ago. She brings a positive energy to the Parkview campus and excels at collaborating with her colleagues. Rochelle seeks out and learns new strategies to best support her students and willingly shares her knowledge with others. Rochelle is so passionate about her profession, she seeks to support all students, even those not assigned to her case load. She listens to staff needs and offers suggestions for strategies that may be implemented in any classroom. Rochelle heard many teachers commenting about the difficulty students were having with writing skills after returning from distance learning. She responded by providing a professional development at our Tuesday meeting to help staff learn new ways to support their students in their handwriting and pencil gripping skills. Rochelle continually models exemplary practices and serves as a role model for others. It is an honor to recognize Rochelle Zolna with the Oak Grove School District Vision Award for Exemplary Staff.

SANTA TERESA ELEMENTARY

Mike Moody – SDC Teacher

Mike Moody does an excellent job connecting with his students and families. He works tirelessly to make everyone feel comfortable with their learning environment. He is patient, flexible, and understanding. During the 21-22 school year, after a challenging staffing situation in another classroom, Mike agreed to be the case manager for multiple students not on his roster. This helped ensure that families had a certificated teacher to connect with and also kept the school in compliance with IEPs. I am pleased to be recognizing Mike Moody with the Exemplary Staff Vision Award.

SANTA TERESA ELEMENTARY

Val Wood – SDC Teacher

Val Wood provides engaging and creative learning opportunities for her students. She consistently seeks out new ways to allow her students to engage with their general education peers through mainstreaming experiences. During the 21-22 school year, after a challenging staffing situation in another classroom, Val agreed to be the case manager for multiple students not on her roster. This helped ensure that families had a certificated teacher to connect with and also kept the school in compliance with IEPs. Val is always willing to support all students and staff. I am pleased to be recognizing Val Wood with the Exemplary Staff Vision Award.

TAYLOR ELEMENTARY

Sarah Nolan – 4th Grade Teacher

Sarah is definitely a lifelong learner. She has participated in many high-quality and intensive professional development sessions in order to continue to refine her teaching craft. She also shares her knowledge and offers support to upper grade teachers. She seeks out feedback and continues to strive to be the best teacher she can be, even though she has many years of experience. She is innovative, collaborative, and student-centered. She is an excellent contributing member of the Oak Grove community!

TWO WAY BILINGUAL IMMERSION PROGRAM

Yohanna Roldan – 2nd Grade Teacher

Maestra Roldan develops, seeks out and attends or facilitates ongoing professional development programs that reflect current research and exemplary practices, and successfully implements new learnings, and serves as a model or coach for others. She is currently an Emergent Bilingual Change Agent with Teach Plus and continues to bring resources and professional development opportunities to the TWBI team. She is an exemplary model of the District Core Values.