

COMMUNICATION VISION AWARDS 2023

The recipients were selected based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrates effective interpersonal skills by consistently and actively helping to promote effective group interaction and opinions in ways that are sensitive to the feelings or knowledge base of others
- Uses effective techniques to clearly communicate a positive District image to the community in a highly creative and insightful manner
- Consistently and effectively disseminates written information in a positive manner that is timely, clear and concise

ANDERSON ELEMENTARY

Holly May – Literacy Coach

Holly has been instrumental in helping teachers at Anderson get up and running with data collection and the PLC process. She has organized all spreadsheets and metrics, she works with teachers as needed, offers suggestions as needed and is a strong thought partner. She has done so much for Anderson Teachers over the past year, I am excited to see where this takes everyone - and our students!

BALDWIN ELEMENTARY

Maria Guarte – Health Clerk

It is an honor to nominate Maria Guarte for the Communication Vision Award. Maria communicates with our community on a daily basis in a variety of ways. She is instrumental in keeping our marque up to date. Maria phones families on a daily basis checking on attendance. She is a constant source of compassion for our students when they are injured or not feeling well. Through her use of voice and compassion, she makes them instantly feel better. She also communicates clearly and timely with staff to keep them up to date on their students. We are so grateful to have Maria as part of our Baldwin Family.

Kathy Verbera – SDC Preschool Teacher

It is an honor to nominate Kathy Verbera for the Communication Vision Award. Kathy actively helps to disseminate information to our SDC Preschool Team. She has also taken on supporting our CICO students at Baldwin this year and in doing so has done a fantastic job of communicating between the administration and the classroom teachers as to their progress in the program. Kathy is effective in her communication and remains positive, clear and concise. Baldwin is honored to have her as part of our community and to recommend her for this well deserving award.

DAVIS INTERMEDIATE

Cruz Nieves – Health Clerk

Cruz communicates often and efficiently with administration and with teachers and staff around health needs and concerns of our students. She plays an active role advocating for the needs of our students and parents. She builds relations with students who have health needs and communicates with all involved. Cruz also uses her bilingual Spanish communication to help translate and interpret vital information between home and school. Cruz steps up to assist in the front office with the secretaries with in person and phone communications as needed. She is an important liaison between the District nurse and the school. We are fortunate to have Cruz here at Davis!

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EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Alle Alvarez – Executive Secretary

Alle does an excellent job upholding communication within our Educational Services Department, between our department and school sites as well as between various departments in the District Office. Her communication is always positive, informative and her follow up is excellent. Additionally, when she interacts with the public and parent community with their questions and concerns, she does so in a supportive manner. Her bilingualism in both English and Spanish also helps multiple families stay connected to the District. Alle keeps our team up to date on necessary communication and her support is invaluable to ensure that important communication (such as Board items, information needed by site admins, numerous meeting and professional development needs, etc.) is handled and taken care of efficiently and effectively.

FROST ELEMENTARY

Anne Sanfilippo – 3rd Grade Teacher

Ms. Sanfilippo makes sure that her parents are fully informed with all necessary information to partner with her to ensure the success of students. Ms. Sanfilippo is one of our highest users of Parent Square.

Kayleigh Sustaita – School Secretary

Ms. Kayleigh is one of the most visible members of our school. She consistently greets the public with impeccable attention to customer service. Her level of warmth and professionalism promotes a positive image to the Frost family and the OGSD community. Ms. Kayleigh sends out well written communications to keep Frost parents and staff up to date on Frost current events. In every aspect of her job she goes above and beyond.

LEDESMA ELEMENTARY

Jennifer Seo – 5th Grade Teacher

Jennifer is an integral part of our instructional leadership team. As such, she is responsible for effective communication and dissemination of information to her professional learning community members. She maintains positivity at all times and works to establish effective meeting norms that help produce consistent written and oral communication. In addition, she facilitates PLC meetings with school peers with aplomb, receiving appreciation from her colleagues for her creativity, collaborative spirit, and follow through.

OAK RIDGE ELEMENTARY

Ashley Pineda – School Psychologist

One of Ashley's greatest assets is her communication skills with students, staff, and families. She is always willing to work with administration and problem solve situations regarding our students to ensure that we are looking at the big picture from all angles. During IEP meetings, Ashley presents written reports that are thorough and speaks to the reports with clarity and compassion as many times these reports reveal sensitive information about a family's child. Ashley also supports our entire Special Ed staff with her expertise and provides guidance when situations are unclear or uncertain. If she doesn't know the answer, she is always willing to seek support or advice from others in the field and follows up with our staff. Ashley is definitely an asset to all at Oak Ridge!

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SAKAMOTO ELEMENTARY

Susan Gerbrandt – 1st Grade Teacher

Susan communicates both District and site level missions and visions to promote effective interactions. In a meeting, for example, Susan synthesized the feelings of others into metaphors that participants used. These metaphors encouraged participants to engage each other civilly. Susan works with a variety of groups and always strives to help them find middle ground, and she does so often in a creative and insightful manner.

STEAM AT STIPE ELEMENTARY

Samara Glantz – RSP Teacher

As the RSP teacher, Sam communicates effectively with colleagues and families. She listens to families, gathering important information and input. She shares the successes of the students she supports. She is clear in how she presents information and updates. She is reliable and consistent in her communication. Families and colleagues know that they can count on Sam to communicate regarding the academic progress and the social/emotional status of the students she supports. Sam holds true to the values of OGSD in every interaction.