

# Annual Staff Recognition Awards

## 2024 Staff Recognition Program Nominees

At surprise presentations made in February and March, three Fargo Public Schools (FPS) staff members were honored for their outstanding performance and service this school year to the students, families, and schools of the Fargo Public School District. Eagles Elementary School Teacher Amanda Hetland, Jefferson Elementary School Administrative Assistant Sarrah Gustafson, and Davies High School School Principal Troy Cody were honored with the 2024 Staff Recognition Program awards.

The District received numerous nominations submitted by community members for consideration for these three awards. Colleagues, students, and parents submitted narratives that told of nominees' amazing levels of dedication, positive attitudes, and sincere commitment to students and education.

The FPS Staff Recognition Program is more than public recognition of a few people each year - it is truly about the amazing qualities and commitment to students and learning that the entire staff of teachers, administrators, and support staff members exhibit and share with the community each and every day.

**Here are the listings of the 2024 Staff Recognition Program Nominees:**

### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

The FPS Teacher of the Year recipient is forwarded to the North Dakota Department of Instruction as a candidate for the Cass County Teacher of the Year and potentially the North Dakota Teacher of the Year. There were 52 nominees for the 2024 Fargo Public School District Teacher of the Year Award.

First Name	Last Name	Position	Building
Stacy	Anderson	Gifted Services	Lewis and Clark
Vanessa	Boehm	Counselor	Virtual Academy
Lauren	Brandenburg	Music - Vocal	Carl Ben Eielson
Gregory	Calrow	Music - Band	Ben Franklin
Kelsey	Dragosavich	Music - Band	North
Jason	Edwards	Science - 7th Grade	Discovery
Sarah	Elkins	Literacy Coach	McKinley
Taryn	Erickson	Science - 7th Grade	Discovery
Melissa	Evensen	Social Studies - HS	North
Cordel	Finton	Language Arts - HS	North
Morgan	Freeman	Grade 4	Ed Clapp
Chris	Gast	Grade 4	Bennett
Erin	Gigstad	Sp Ed - Speech Language Pathologist	Longfellow
Tammy	Graber	Special Education Teacher	North
Carly	Grandner	Music - Vocal	Davies
Deborah	Hallquist	Health Education	North



# Staff Recognition, continued

Amber	Hanson	Kindergarten Teacher	Ed Clapp
Mona	Heggedal	Kindergarten Teacher	Lewis and Clark
Amanda	Hetland	Special Education - Autism	Eagles
Angela	Hoots	Art - Elementary	Centennial
Rachel	Hummel	Math - HS	North
Jamison	Jensen	Grade 4	Longfellow
Lori	Kava	Special Education Teacher	Longfellow
Colin	Kloster	Social Students - HS	North
Lori	Koenig	Drama	Discovery
Allie	Kollman	Facilitator - Science	District Office
Bambi	Lambert	Special Education - Hearing Impaired	Davies
Bart	Manson	Social Studies - HS	Davies
Bernadette	Medbery	Grade 3	Longfellow
Steven	Muhs	AFJROTC	South
Shawn	Nelson	Grade 4	Kennedy
Audra	Nyquist	Grade 4	Lewis and Clark
Tracy	Osman	Sp Ed - Speech Language Pathologist	Madison
Taylor	Penner	Kindergarten Teacher	Bennett
Laura	Qualey	Language Arts	Virtual Academy
Amber	Remark	Instructional Coach	Bennett
Mindy	Rivas	Special Education - ECSE	Agassiz
Krista	Salzer	Music - Elementary	Eagles
Emily	Schneider	Language Arts - HS	North
Kathryn	Schott	Social Studies - 6th Grade	Discovery
Erin	Sinner	Instructional Coach	Davies
Sara	Smith	CTE - Marketing	South
Carrie	Spellerberg	Language Arts - 8th Grade	Discovery
Verlene	Stotts	Music - Band	Discovery
Kathryn	Strand	World Language - Latin	North
Kristine	Strege	Music - Band	Davies
Kristan	Swenson	4th Grade Teacher	Madison
Regan	Teslaw	Grade 1	Longfellow
Kelly	Timm	Grade 2	Lewis and Clark
James	Urlacher	World Language	Discovery
Beth	Ustanko	Gifted Services	Kennedy
Julia	Warner	Gifted Services	Bennett

## SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR

There were 32 nominees for the 2024 Fargo Public Schools Support Staff of the Year Award.

First Name	Last Name	Position	Building
Matt	Anda	Assistant Lead Custodian	Discovery



# Staff Recognition, continued

Rebecca	Barbee	Paraeducator	Lincoln
Sarah	Bernstrom	SWFF Social Worker	Agassiz
Elizabeth	Bramel	Paraeducator	Eagles
Tyler	Brown	Graphic Web Designer	District Office
Nik	Budig	Paraeducator	Ed Clapp
Stacey	Bush	Attendance Clerk	North
Pam	Christianson	Office Assistant	Ed Clapp
Kayla	Dewey	Administrative Assistant	Davies
Julie	Eiler	Paraeducator	North
Jennifer	Fisher	Positive Behavior Technician	Bennett
Linda	Froysland	Paraeducator	Davies
Jesus	Gonzalez	Positive Behavior Technician	Madison
Sherry	Grover	Library Assistant	Dakota
Sarraah	Gustafson	Administrative Assistant	Jefferson
Keith	Harrison	Lead Custodian	Discovery
Mark	Hensley	Network Administrator	District Office
Ben	Hess	Lead Custodian	Agassiz
Jane	Johnson	Paraeducator	Longfellow
James	Kuebler	Lead Custodian	Explorer Academy
Allison	Law	Restorative Practices Conference Facilitator	North
Carla	Lott	Paraeducator	South
Solveig	Overturf	Tutor	Bennett
Wendy	Peterson	Attendance Clerk	North
Jason	Powell	Paraeducator	Davies
Lenore	Prisinzano	Administrative Assistant	Lewis and Clark
Kimberly	Schatzke	Paraeducator	Eagles
Hannah	Schoepp	Paraeducator	Washington
Jennifer	Shipp	Positive Behavior Interventionist	Kennedy
Jan	Tronnes	Kitchen Manager	South
Lacey	Willey	Paraeducator	Lewis and Clark
Kesara	Yonemura	Custodian	Ed Clapp

## ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

There were 15 nominees for the 2024 Fargo Public Schools Administrator of the Year Award.

First Name	Last Name	Position	Building
Kathy	Anderson	Executive Director	Trollwood
Todd	Bertsch	Principal	South
Travis	Christensen	Principal	North
Troy	Cody	Principal	Davies
Lori	Conmy	Principal	Madison
Missy	Eidsness	Associate Superintendent	District Office



# Staff Recognition, continued

Holly	Fiechtner	Dean of Students	Virtual Academy
Julie	Frank	Assistant Principal	Bennett
Brad	Franklin	Principal	Carl Ben Eielson
Eric	Henrickson	Principal	Longfellow
Donna	Johnson	Principal	ECSE
Justin	Lien	Principal	Explorer Academy
Beth	Olson	Principal	Jefferson
Amanda	Quintus	Assistant Principal	North
Jaelyn	Shultis	Assistant Principal	Horace Mann Roosevelt

***The Fargo Public School District wishes to congratulate and thank each and every 2024 Staff Recognition Program nominee and award winner for their dedication to their students, their school, and the District. Together, we are educating and empowering all students to succeed!***

For additional information on the annual FPS Staff Recognition Program, including nomination criteria and a listing of past award winners, visit [www.fargo.k12.nd.us/staffrecognitionprogram](http://www.fargo.k12.nd.us/staffrecognitionprogram).

