



Memorandum

To: Board of Education
CC: Dr. Debbie Jones, Superintendent
From: Leslee Wright, Director of Communications
Date: October 14, 2020
RE: Extra Mile Service Award

Bentonville Schools will celebrate Joanne Peeler as the recipient of the Extra Mile Service Award for October. Joanne is a special education teacher at Ruth Barker Middle School and was nominated by the mother of one of her students. Her students are non-verbal and thrive on face-to-face interaction with their teacher. Everything she knew about teaching was challenged, however, by a recent COVID-19 positive test result. Joanne immediately transitioned to a virtual setting, empowering parents to help their children throughout the quarantine period.

Joanne is known to hand deliver binders filled with reading and math materials to help her students stay on track while at home and to establish Google classrooms just for her parents so they can watch video tutorials in advance of their students. She creates an army of educators so no child is left to struggle or regress in these challenging times. And she does it all on the weekend, over the summer break and in those precious moments of quiet that are far and few between these days.

Please join us in appreciating Joanne for going the Extra Mile in this unprecedented time as she serves some of our most special students.

About the Extra Mile Award

Any individual may nominate a Bentonville Schools employee by going to our [website](#). Nominations will be considered by administration and that employee's direct supervisor. Nomination rules and regulations will be posted on the website prior to the start of the nomination process.