

Grant Community High School

Excellence **in Education** AWARD

Awarded to: *Dawn Kalk*

Reason Chosen: Dawn Kalk is a highly deserving candidate for the Excellence in Education Award. Her dedication to student advocacy, empathy, collaboration, and integrity is evident in the meaningful support she provides to students, their families, and colleagues throughout the school community. As a school social worker, Dawn goes above and beyond to ensure that students feel heard, understood, and supported. She creates a safe and welcoming space where students can express themselves, share their concerns, and seek guidance with confidence.

Empathy is at the heart of Dawn's approach. She treats every student with respect, patience, and understanding, fostering an environment of acceptance and trust. Her kind and approachable demeanor puts students at ease and allows them to feel valued without fear of judgment. Through her genuine care and commitment, Dawn helps students navigate challenges while ensuring their individual needs remain a priority.

Beyond her work with students, Dawn exemplifies professionalism and collaboration. She works diligently with teachers, counselors, administrators, and outside resources to ensure students receive the support they need. Dawn is also a trusted and valued colleague who is always willing to share ideas, offer thoughtful feedback, and support the professional growth of others. Her involvement on multiple GCHS committees further demonstrates her commitment to strengthening the school community and contributing to its collective success.

What truly sets Dawn apart is her unwavering commitment to advocating for others and building meaningful relationships. She leads with compassion, integrity, and a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of those around her. Her dedication to student well-being, collaborative spirit, and exemplary approach to school social work make her an invaluable member of the Grant Community High School community and a truly deserving recipient of the Excellence in Education Award.

Jeremy Schmidt, Ed.D
Superintendent

Blair Schoell
Principal