

Outstanding Employee award winners celebrated *School Board recognizes winners of this year's awards*

April 17, 2008—Renton School Board members at last night's meeting recognized winners of this year's Outstanding Employee awards. The annual awards recognize staff who demonstrate an extraordinary level of job performance, vigorous support for students, professionalism and dedication. The board has presented the award to district employees for 30 years.

Colleagues, family members and students came to honor recipients of this year's awards, offering personal anecdotes and professional praise for these outstanding staff members.

Nearly 30 district staff members were nominated for this year's awards. A selection committee — consisting of board members, last year's award winners and others — worked for hours grading each of the nominees based on information presented on application forms and accompanying letters of support. The work was not easy, as all of the nominees proved to be impressive, exceptional members of the Renton School District family.

This year's recipients are consummate professionals, offering a high level of skill, competence, and character.

Recipients of this year's awards are:

• Outstanding Elementary Teacher:

William Ramirez, second-grade teacher at Sierra Heights Elementary School
(now working as administrative intern at Cascade Elementary School)

William has worked in the Renton School District for 10 years. His influence goes well beyond the classroom: he offers translation for Spanish-speaking families, manages the school's Web site, is the PTSA liaison, serves on several school, district and community committees, is a mentor to student teachers and nurtures students and staff.

William serves on the University of Washington's Professional Education Advisory Board for Teacher Education.

In 2005, William spent his summer vacation building schools and teaching children in the jungles of Peru, and in 2007, traveled to the continent of Africa to build schools and learn more about world culture, history, education, geography and government.



• Outstanding Secondary Teacher:

Shawna Hoggard, mathematics and science teacher at the H.O.M.E. program

Shawna has worked in education for six years. She teaches children in kindergarten through grade 12 at the district's home school program. Shawna hosts the annual science fair, serves on the building improvement committee as well as the district's staff development and mathematics review committees.

Shawna keeps her own education current by taking classes for her mathematics endorsement, has completed professional



certification training, and attends national science teacher conferences and the state's learning alternatives conferences.

Shawna is passionately motivated, offering rich, engaging classroom content with interesting interactive demonstrations and activities that help students at all grade levels absorb and retain information.

**• Outstanding Building Support Person:
Nancy Ringos, Library Assistant, Lindbergh High School**

Nancy has worked in education for 30 years. She began her employment as clerk/typist and quickly moved through positions to become library assistant at Lindbergh. She has been known to do everything at the school from helping student's with research papers, to helping staff with technology, to sweeping the stage before a student performance.

Nancy offers students kind words and stern admonition when needed. She is both the building's historian and the caring confidant to young teachers. Staff and students seek her out for her energy, compassion, knowledge and sense of humor.



**• Outstanding District Support Person:
Sue Deal, Manager for Classified Personnel, Human Resources**

Sue has worked in the Renton School District for 31 years. She began her work as a clerk and continued to excel while moving through the ranks. Sue is the manager for all classified staff, but her work touches all employees. Her attention to staff hiring and support ensures a quality workforce throughout the district. Her work has included ensuring that every paraeducator in the district is "highly-qualified" under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. She organizes testing for staff and hosts professional development opportunities.

Sue's work directly helps students by ensuring that staff placements match the needs of the students. Her work includes working with staff to match their specific talents and skills with the needs at schools.



Nominees for this year's Outstanding Employee awards by category:

Outstanding Elementary Teacher:

- Joanne Angell, Campbell Hill Elementary School
- Janet Fisher, Kennydale Elementary School
- Freedom Johnson, Lakeridge Elementary School
- Maxine Matthew, Maplewood Heights Elementary School
- Kristin Sampson, Kennydale Elementary School
- Harvey Sadis, Cascade Elementary School
- Diane Wilson, Bryn Mawr Elementary School

Outstanding Secondary Teacher:

- Jessica Barker, Renton High School

- Joseph Day, Nelsen Middle School
- Emily Doramus, Renton Academy
- Brian Hoskins, Nelsen Middle School
- Nicole Nuckley, McKnight Middle School
- Athena Nadeau, Renton High School
- Kathy Simpson, Nelsen Middle School
- Yoko Sase, Lindbergh High School
- Jim Tarleton, Dimmitt Middle School
- Ashlie Tusberg, Nelsen Middle School

Outstanding Building Support Person:

- Susan Branham-Melvin, Maplewood Heights Elementary School
- Sharon Cox, Hillcrest Early Childhood Center
- Joe Dahl, Hazen High School
- Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School
- Julie Foster, Hazelwood Elementary School
- Susan Fox, Sierra Heights Elementary School
- Jessica Godfrey, Dimmitt Middle School
- Susan Kliewer, Renton Academy
- Christie Lind, Hazen High School
- Teresa Lind, Benson Hill Elementary School
- Nancy Martin, Dimmitt Middle School
- Karalyn Pelligrini, Lindbergh High School
- Janet Regge, Cascade Elementary School
- Frank Rutherford, Hazen High School
- Mary Schultz, Highlands Elementary School
- Katherine Ward, Renton High School
- Mollie Wirtz, Renton Academy

Outstanding District Support Person:

- Bob Bainton, Transportation
- Sandra Case, Department of Learning and Teaching
- Denise Greer, Nutrition Services
- Kay Hermann, Human Resources
- Bob Israel, Business Office