

EANESPIRATION AWARDS

Congratulations to the Eanes Elementary EANESpiration winners!

Heroes Award

Ms. Michelle Dintzner, parent volunteer

Ms. Dintzner comes to school every week for 1 ½-2 hours to help with the KMBC morning announcement show with 5th grade students. She trains new 5th graders each week with the jobs of Musical Director, Camera Operator and other areas of technology. She takes initiative to order technical supplies that are needed to make KMBC run smoothly and efficiently.

KMBC would probably not be as successful as it is without Michelle's guidance, patience and expertise. We are so grateful for everything she does in this unique and innovative program that is beneficial to students and staff.

Ms. Julie Westervelt, parent volunteer

Ms. Westervelt trains and coaches the students on camera doing the Pledge of Allegiance and announcing the lunch menu. She helps set the tone for the day by getting students ready to learn through calming, centering yoga activities,

poses and stretches. Not only does she generously volunteer her services, she is genuinely one of the most caring, kind and positive people you will ever meet. In the words of our Kindergarteners, "She helps us stretch, be strong, and

working smoothly. We can always count on her to be a few steps ahead in her thinking, so we can be prepared for lessons and events coming up.

Alison played a significant role in helping new teachers from the middle school adjust to their new assignments this year. She went out of her way to make everyone feel welcome and to create a unified team of teachers. Alison is always willing to step in to help a colleague or to aid in coming up with creative and effective ways to



exercise, so we won't be lazy...and it's not even her job!" You haven't lived until you've seen 22 Kindergarteners attempting yoga poses en masse. It is quite a sight! We adore Ms. Westervelt and owe her a debt of gratitude for dedicating her time and energy to our students and staff.

Ms. Alison Grossimon, 4th grade teacher

Ms. Grossimon embodies the meaning of team leader. She has the organization skills and work ethic that keep the 4th grade team

teach. She goes above and beyond the average work day to create innovative Smartboard lessons and cross-curricular activities, and she happily shares her ideas. She is described as a kind-hearted teacher that not only shows patience and understanding to her students, but is also a role model for thoughtful, conscientious teaching to her co-workers.

Her nomination reads, "Through all of the duties and responsibilities that come with teaching, she always has a positive attitude and

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looks for the good in everyone. Alison is our hero for all the little things she does for the people around her everyday.”

Ms. Lanette Kinnaird, parent volunteer

Ms. Kinnaird has gone above and beyond her duty as a parent volunteer to not only help her child’s home room but all 3rd grade classes during their pioneer unit. Ms. Kinnaird volunteered her time on the annual pioneer day to set up a professional photo set in the Eanes History Center to capture each child in the third grade (over 100 students), so the students would be able to capture this special day and parents would have a keepsake.

Lanette has been extremely helpful and involved at Eanes Elementary over the years from doing jobs as big as PTO president, photographing each classroom on campus for the Fall Carnival and the staff for class web pages, to jobs much smaller but just as meaningful such as being a Friday Reader in her children’s classrooms. It is clear she is passionate about supporting our students and teachers.

Her nomination reads, “The third grade team truly appreciates the time she took out of her day to help support us and make Pioneer Day memorable for the children. She is a fantastic asset to Eanes Elementary!”

Good Samaritan Award

Ms. Pamela Cross, secretary

Ms. Cross works in the front office at Eanes Elementary and she is patient and kind to all students and adults who come through the office even during the busiest of times. She has a kind spirit about her and calls parents and students by name when they call into the office. She takes time to listen to students who come to the office to play instruments, read poetry or end up being picked up late at the end of the day. She does all of this with a smile on her face and in her voice. She is often still at school even after all the teachers and administrators leave, and comes to school on Saturdays to complete projects she has. This year when we lost our part time secretary due to budget cuts, many extra duties landed on Pamela’s plate. You will never hear her complain about the amount of work she has, the long hours they require, or show any negative emotion.

Her nomination reads, “Ms. Cross is the heart of our school. She handles such a vast multitude of duties and daily responsibilities that it staggers the mind and makes her completely irreplaceable. We would simply be lost without her.”

Educational Impact Award

Ms. Michelle Corbett, counselor

Ms. Corbett has gone above and beyond to keep the KMBC program up and running this year. She works each week to ensure 5th

graders have a script prepared and are trained to perform each position on the KMBC cast and crew. Without her efforts, this wonderful program would have no doubt disappeared this year. Running KMBC is not in the typical scope or duty of a school counselor, yet Michelle stepped in without a question to preserve the program because she she’s the value in it for the kids - both in creating and watching the programs each week. Thanks for always filling our buckets, Mrs. Corbett!

Ms. Erin Worley, Kindergarten teacher

Ms. Worley has been inspiring her Kindergarten class to become writers through her Writer’s Workshop. Many people may think Kindergartners aren’t capable of writing with meaning since they are only 5 years old. Erin has shown just the opposite. Her students know many of the Literary Elements being used all the way up in 5th grade. Many kids have even begun to recognize certain authors by the types of writing and illustrations they use. For many kids, writing is often seen as something difficult. Erin’s techniques, energy, and passion have them inspired from the very start of their education. Erin is showing us that it is never too early to get our kids writing and sharing their creativity.