



CAMDENTON R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT
VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
VOLUNTEERS 2016-2017

“Volunteers....

Make the World

a Brighter Place”



Camdenton R-III School District would like to take this opportunity to commend each and every one of you on an outstanding year. Your contribution of time, energy, and love will be a solid investment in the future of our students and our community. We hope that your relationship with our school has been as rewarding to you as it has been to our students and staff.

Whether you have volunteered one hour, or over 100 hours, please accept your certificate and a small token of our appreciation.

Charli Allee	Laurie Butz	Carol Farrand
Marianette Allen	Samantha Calvert	Mindy Farris
Brenda Alt	Vianney Cervantes	Monika Farthing
Tammy Andreasen	Tia Chamberlin	Debbie Flanders
Diane Ayers	Minerva Chaparro	Ethel Fowler
Rosey Baines	Becky Chastain	Bruce Fredrick
Maureen Baker	Matt Cody	Kelsey Freeman
Janet Baker	Brenda Colter	Don Fromm
Sherry Barbush	Sara Cook	Pat Fromm
Melanie Bartron	Nancy Coon	Linda Frymyer
Kristi Bates	Belinda Cordes	Karen Gagnon
Kee Baxter	Ashley Cowen	Jeannette George
Sistie Bender	Chera Craig	Tiffany Gillam
Staci Benedick	Lynn Crawford	Meagan Glascock
Nina Bergthold	Heather Cross-McGuire	Tanner Glodt
Jan Berry	Nancy Culver	Autumn Gold
Carla Bishop	David Curchy	Sara Gorman
Ashley Bledsoe	Scott Danek	Jo Ann Gornet
Bill Blomberg	Wayne DeVries	Stan Green
Wendy Blomberg	Alice DeVries	Linnea Groves
Jean Boaz	Autumn Diffey	Tammy Haas
Nondas Bogart	Tara Dishman	Amy Hadfield
Amanda Borders	JR Doerr	Renee Hannigan
Darlene Bozzardi	Jessica Dutton	Kaytlyn Hatmon
Barbara Brand	Tracey Dymond	Mark Haven
Bobbie Bridges	Christen Easter	Erin Haynes
Frank Briscoe	Sandy Ehret	Alvin Heathman
Hickman Donnie Brown	Jenny Evans	Margie Heinsz
Connie Burns	Nancy Eveland	Bill Henderson
Sasha Burton	Kathleen Fair	Amy Hernandez
Catrina Butts	Larry Fair	Jeanne Hess

Melissa Highwood
Lorraine Hilliard
John Hofmann
Lindsey Hogan
Michael Huebner
Linda Hughes
Tammy Hulett
Joyce Ice
Kenny Ipema
Kenneth Jackson
Kylene Jay
Jeff Jefferson
April Jemes
Rebecca Jenkins
Renee Johnson
Ricky Jones
Lenny Kaiser
Rosie Keeney
Kathy Keith
Tara Keller
Linda Kimberling
Mary King
Jane King
Ann Klinkewicz
Diane Knoll
Sue LaBram
Ronni Land
Dolores Lane
Becky Latham
Julie Law
Margaret Leahy
Erin Leezer
Jori LeMay
Susan Leslie
Corey Leuwerke
Richard Luelf
Tasha Lybarger
Kelly Lyons
Jamie Maasen
Susan Manton
John Marrs
Ruth Marrs
Shawn Marshall
Alysia Maschino
Jessica Mataverde
Jason McElvain
Courtney McRoberts
Earline Medcalf
Juana Yaznin Medina

Theresa Mendez
Rita Metz
Steve Metz
Brad Mitchell
Gary Mitchell
Carl Morales
Denise Moreland
Paula Murphy
Joe Murray
Mary Ann Murray
Patti Nale
HB Neis
Ingrid Niemann
Kathy Nolke
JoAnn Nolte
Jessica Norman
Judy Oostendorp
Dolores Ovington
Sheila Owens
Millicent Parker
Natalie Pasley
Savannah Payne
Kathy Peery
Gloria Peterson
Don Peterson
Will Pierce
Linda Pisciotte
Ericka Poage
Marguerite Poest
Joshua Pogue
Kim Pool
Marilyn Pro
Lisa Putnam
Colette Quade
Debby Raithel
Curt Reams
Diane Reams
Paula Reddersen
Merrill Reel
Dorothy Cagle Reynolds
Michael Reynolds
Sara Richardson
Susana Riga
Troy Risner
Amy Robb
Jerome Robins
Melissa Robinson
Sandy Robinson
Shelley Rounds

Amy Samons
Allie Sartain
Susan Sartain
Carole Scheller
Daria Scheuerman
Mary Schindler
Kimberly Scholp
Robin Schuman
Sarah Shaw
Clifford Shirk
Norma Shirk
Theresa Siegel
Lisa D Simpson
Bobbie Slenker
Patricia Sloan
Lori Smelick
Barbara Smith
Hayley Smith
Suzette Snodderley
Carey Stawarz
Ronda Stehle
Madison Steingrubey
Gail Still
Dee Stoelting
Linda Straight
Amy Supulver
Deana Sylvester
April Tate
Shana Thompson
Sharon Thurmond
Jessica Thurmond
Tiffany Tryon
Kathy Valbracht
Amy Wackerman
Joyce Wanamaker
Chuck Wanamaker
Cindy Waters
Jody Watson
Nancy Wedig
Edwin Wedig
Pam Weisler
Jeannette Wells
Kerri Whitehurst
Joshua Whitney
Cheryl Wilde
Peggy Wilde
Carolyn Wiles
Roz Wilson
Gene Wilson

Martha Wilson
Jansen Wilson
Cindy Wismer
Amy Withrow
Judy Young



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:
VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED
FOR DOGWOOD ELEMENTARY
KINDERGARTEN MEET THE
TEACHER NIGHT
AUGUST 16TH**



HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!

**HOPE TO SEE YOU
NEXT YEAR.**



Camdenton R-III School District



**Volunteer of the Year
Nominations
2016-2017**



**Make
the
World a
Brighter
Place**

We Celebrate YOU!

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Staci Benedick Volunteer since 2015

I am writing this letter to nominate my volunteer. She is an outstanding addition to my team here at school. She is always eager and excited for any projects I have ready for her. I can just jot down an idea for a project and she is able to come up with an amazing design. I am always amazed at the amount of work she is able to get completed. She is very organized and such a hard worker! Once again this year, she has been working hard on organizing and managing my classroom's memory books for our end-of-the-year gift to our parents. This is a huge undertaking and requires lots of time. My students have had a sneak peek at their memory books and are so excited to give them to their parents. I really feel my classroom would not run as smoothly without her services.



Maureen Baker Volunteer since 2014

My volunteer is so deserving of this award. She has been with me several years now. She always goes above and beyond what is expected of her. On holidays she always shows up to the parties to make sure those students without a visitor feel special. She makes each student in my room a special gift for holidays as well. My volunteer has also shown up to Grandparents Day to be there for students who may not have a grandparent or have grandparents that live far away. She always manages to get every student to smile even if they are having a bad day! One of my class's favorite things about our volunteer is her crystal wand. She brings it with her every Tuesday. I think they believe she is a fairy! She has played such an important role in my classroom interventions for students who may need extra support in certain academic or social areas. Every Tuesday she pulls these students to give them one-on-one tutor time. These students have made astounding progress. Our amazing volunteer is responsible for student growth both with their minds and their hearts, so please consider her for this esteemed award.

**By Jennifer Hollingsworth
Kindergarten Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

Ashley Bledsoe Volunteer since 2011

My volunteer has assisted the counselors and the Social Worker at Dogwood in fabricating décor for the monthly Attendance Celebrations, made signs and bulletin board creations for the halls and classrooms, and arrived early to assist with morning attendance check-ins.

She has made countless copies, cuttings, and punch-outs for teachers, counselors, and the Social Worker. She has given so much of her precious time.



It is truly amazing how she interacts with students and encourages them. She is simply amazing!

**By Rebecca Caufield
Social Worker
Dogwood Elementary**

**By Jennifer Hollingsworth
Kindergarten Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**



Wendy Blomberg and Jo Ann Gornet
Volunteer since 2007 and 2004



I would like to nominate my dynamic duo for Volunteers of the Year. It would be impossible for me to nominate one or the other of these two ladies because they are both critically

important to me as secretary at Hurricane Deck Elementary. I can count on them to say “YES” to any task I ask of them.

Both of my volunteers assist me with many things in the office, including but not by any means limited to:

- Copying and distributing the many flyers and registration forms that are sent home with our students
- Assembling registration packets for new enrollees
- Adding the student’s new school picture to his/her file each year
- Attaching MAP testing stickers to 3rd and 4th grade files
- Laminating and cutting items for teachers
- Assembling packets and projects for teachers
- Filing and tracking field trip, handbook, compact, and transportation forms for each student
- Assembling packets and goody bags for our Leadership Day

These ladies are extremely giving of their time and exemplify the quote Joi has placed by the Volunteer sign-in box:

“Volunteers are not paid- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”

I am extremely lucky to have these two wonderful ladies as both volunteers and friends.

By Jody Dalton
Secretary
Hurricane Deck Elementary



Frank Briscoe *Volunteer since 2011*



It is with great enthusiasm and gratitude that my students and I would like to nominate our volunteer, Mr. X, for the honor of Volunteer of the Year. It would be difficult to overstate the impact that Mr. X has on our program. With steady dependability, he arrives well before class begins every Monday-Thursday and stays to help through 6th hour. Throughout the year our program hosts evening events, and Mr. X is there for each of these as well.



Speaking as a first year teacher, Mr. X has been an absolute God-send to me. His quiet intelligence has been a valuable sounding board as I figure out how to do this job well! Our program requires frequent errand-running, and in this regard Mr. X has saved me countless hours of work outside the classroom. Our program is very hands-on and work-oriented; having an extra set of adult eyes and hands makes our lab time far more productive, safe and organized. Mr. X’s many years of industry experience in a field related to our program’s content area makes him an excellent technical resource as well.

Mr. X has a quiet, thoughtful demeanor and is an excellent listener. He genuinely cares for our students and takes the time to listen and develop relationships with them. His steady reliability and calm presence is just what many of our students need. Here is what two of them have to say:



“Without Mr. X, this program wouldn’t at all be the same. He’s an inspiration to all the students and creates a helpful, friendly vibe that keeps our class motivated. He helps at his expense, even, and is at school every day and at every event, too, even though he doesn’t have to be.”



“Mr. X has been here for me since I first joined the program.... Ever since, I have looked up to him, learned from him,

and I’ve seen everything he has done for others. Mr. X has a way of impacting everyone. He also shows endless respect, always helping students who are struggling...His work ethic is inspirational and has boosted my own.”

Our program is, without question, a far better place because of our volunteer, Mr. X.

**By Elaine Mallahan
Culinary Instructor
Lake Career & Technical Center**

Catrina Butts Volunteer since 2013

Our volunteer is a true blessing to myself and everyone she helps! She goes above and beyond each week to help my classroom run smoothly. She genuinely cares about the students and myself. She volunteers for myself and two other teachers. Each week, our volunteer comes in smiling and happy to help with whatever we ask her to do! She does a wide array of tasks to help make sure all of our classrooms run smoothly. Our volunteer puts together books, sharpens pencils, makes copies, gets projects prepared, and so much more! Each week she makes sure she comes in to help us get prepared for the next week. If she is unable to make it her scheduled day, she never fails to come in earlier or later that week and still get things done for us! She openly communicates with us and makes sure



everything is done exactly how we would like! She is not just a volunteer, but also someone our students know and love. She has



made them treat bags for holidays and shows an interest in their lives as well. We are thankful to have such a caring, kind, and wonderful woman as our volunteer!!

**By Betsy Bolinger and Morgan Varner
Third Grade Teacher
Hawthorn Elementary and
Heather Hendon
Kindergarten Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**



Belinda Cordes Volunteer since 2014

In a room that seems full of chaos sometimes, my volunteer brings organization and calm. She is the constant that keeps my brain from exploding. As an art teacher, I see around 650-700 students a week. Keeping things straight is not my forte, but this girl knows what I need before I can even begin to make my list of needs. It’s usually a frantic Thursday when I’m running late across the parking lot to Dogwood and I realize that today is the day that my blessing of a volunteer comes. I think, “Oh no! I didn’t get my list ready for her!” I go into my room to find my sweet volunteer already filling glue bottles or refilling glazes so my kiddos will be able to glaze their little ceramic pinch pots with ease. She is always ready and willing to take on anything I send her way.

With two classrooms to get ready at the beginning of the year, she takes on one of my classroom’s bulletin boards all on her own. She is a refreshing breath to my sometimes-overwhelmed soul. She hangs all of the wonderful classroom artwork in the hallways, bringing joy to the students and staff at Dogwood Elementary. She even painted a mural on the library wall over the summer!



She is always more than willing to work with my kiddos when they need a little extra help. On a crazy winter day when we are creating snowmen and snowflakes, she took on the glitter station so the kiddos could add a little sparkle to their beautiful creations. She is so sweet and gentle with them. It fills my heart to watch her work her magic.

My volunteer has been with me for three years and I could not ask for a better one. My kiddos, our school, and I have been so very blessed to have her in our lives.



**By Whitney Carnahan
Art Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

Belinda Cordes Volunteer since 2014

I would like to nominate my volunteer for Volunteer of the Year. My volunteer comes in to volunteer for Whitney Carnahan and myself every Thursday, faithfully. Volunteering for two artsy (and scatterbrained!) teachers has to be a challenge in itself. She gladly copies, labels, and organizes various projects. She can do it all --- from a beautiful wall decoration to decoupage!

We've also found out that she is a master at any and all things computer! She printed all the programs for kindergarten and first grade musicals this year, plus decorated my door with her expertise. She created Dogwood Musical Jewels' Christmas program (and chastised me for not asking her to create DMJ's spring program!). She has a beautiful eye for design and creativity.

My volunteer is available for Whitney and me every Thursday without fail and also any time in between, should we need her. She recently decorated my wall for kindergarten and first grade musicals on a Friday afternoon when I was out of town.



My volunteer planned and painted the beautiful library mural this past summer. It reaches the whole length of

the library's wall. She added exquisite and Dogwood-exclusive details to make the wall reflect our community. I believe the mural took her from the end of May to the end of June to finish. Such is her commitment to beauty and our school.



My amazing volunteer has been a blessing and I am very glad she takes the time to help not only Whitney, but the entire school and me. She is fantastic and we are grateful!

**By Annette Green
Music Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

Belinda Cordes Volunteer since 2014

It is with great pleasure that I nominate my volunteer for Volunteer of the Year. I do this in recognition of the time, effort, and guidance that she has graciously given to Dogwood Elementary.



As a Leader in Me school, one of our goals is to provide an atmosphere that promotes leadership. My volunteer spent the last part of May and all of June helping the decorations team at Dogwood Elementary achieve this goal. She designed a mural for our school, went shopping with me to help gather supplies, and spent over 70 hours painting the mural and assisting with other projects around the school.

When I first asked her to assist us in painting the mural, she did not hesitate at all. She had a sketch made the very next day. I believe it was clear to her from the start that the team had no idea at all how to paint the mural and what we really meant when we asked her to help was, "Will YOU paint us a mural?" She started working on the mural the day school released for summer vacation. Due to summer school being in session, she worked around school hours in order to paint. She gave up family time during her summer vacation to create a beautiful painting for our school.

Linda Frymyer Volunteer since 2011

My first grade class loves our volunteer so much that we wrote this nomination together. We have been working on opinion/argumentative writing, so I hope that we can persuade you to pick our super special volunteer for this honor!



Our volunteer deserves the Volunteer of the Year award! She is the BEST for thousands of reasons! First, she cares about all of the kids at Dogwood! Second, she helps us learn by making copies and sharpens hundreds and hundreds of pencils for us to practice writing. She wants us to get VERY good grades! Next, she helps organize our books and lets us know if we are missing any. She is the most amazing volunteer because she spends a lot of time working on our stuff when she could be relaxing at home! Our teacher said that she has been volunteering for her for six-and-a-half years! Can you believe that?

There are many, many more reasons she should get the Volunteer of the Year award! We LOVE our volunteer!!! We give her five stars! ★★★★★ Pretty, pretty please pick her! She deserves it!!!



**By Cindy Kumm
First Grade Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

Kylene Jay Volunteer since 2015

My volunteer is so amazing! She is the fastest clerical volunteer I have ever had! She is so wonderful! From the very first day, she has been flexible and diligent even though my volunteer tub gets very overwhelming. ☹ I feel a little sad when I am so busy in the classroom, I don't get to stop and



visit with her when she comes in. She knows where to find my tub, and she just walks in and walks back out to get started right away

in the workroom! I am sending in this nomination to let her know how very much I appreciate her help! Without her doing the copying, cutting, stapling, preparing (the list goes on and on and on and on!!!), I would never be able to provide my kindergartners with such a rich education. What she does for our classroom is so important. Not only does she allow for a richer education of our children, but she also allows me more time to be a mom and wife, which are the most important jobs of all! If she were not here to help me each and every week, I would literally have to spend hours and hours at school preparing. I am looking forward to getting to know her better on a personal level. She is one of the sweetest people I know, and she is very deserving of the Volunteer of the Year Award!



**By Amber Keeney
Kindergarten Teacher
Osage Beach Elementary**

***Diane Knoll Volunteer since 2006 and
Volunteer of the Year in 2016***

My volunteer is:

- V**ery caring individual
- O**utstanding at what she does
- L**oves to help others
- U**ses her talents to serve others
- N**eeded for my sanity!
- T**akes time to give to others
- E**nthusiastic attitude
- E**xtraordinary person with a big heart
- R**eally special to me



**By Angie Stolte
Second Grade Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

***Diane Knoll Volunteer since 2006
and Volunteer of the Year in 2016***



My Volunteer is awesome!
She is always here every week to help me with whatever I have for her to do. She is always willing to help with new projects - big and small. She always wants my students to be able to do their best. She always has a smile and an encouraging word for whomever she meets. She always helps with other projects around the building, She is always there for her other teachers and their students, too. She is awesome!

**By Kelly Mooney
Reading Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

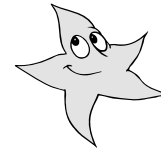
“Mag” Leahy Volunteer since 2008

My volunteer is no average, run-of-the-mill volunteer. My volunteer is AMAZING and let me tell you why! She has been coming to my classroom for the past 11 years. She comes twice a week and helps me with anything that I need or the students need in the classroom. My volunteer gets to the classroom before the students arrive, making us able to review the week’s events and her tasks for the day. My volunteer arrives with a smile and a purple bag filled with her supplies and is ready to get started. In her bag she has a little notebook that she writes down her observations about the student with whom she is working. My volunteer always donates supplies at the beginning of the school year for any student that might need them. She also donates items to the “treasure chest” that I have in my classroom.

My volunteer also orders books from my Scholastic book orders several times a year and donates some of the books to my students who are unable to order them. Two years ago my mom passed away and in the mail



came a “Thinking of you card.” What a thoughtful lady! She is so much more than the average run-of-the-mill volunteer; she has become a great friend and role model for my classroom.



**By Kim Palomo
Kindergarten Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**

***Jori LeMay Volunteer since 2009
and Volunteer of the Year in 2012***

We would like to take this opportunity to nominate an outstanding volunteer for the 2016-2017 school year. Her dedication and professionalism has been greatly appreciated by the staff members and students of Camdenton Middle School. It has been a great pleasure getting to know her both professionally and personally. It is evident she respects and cherishes the education of our students.

It is truly amazing how one person can so positively impact the lives of others. Her dedication is limitless and her timeliness to serve is impeccable. She has even volunteered to take work home with her so teachers have the materials needed to meet their individual deadlines.

Her service also frees the two of us up to devote more attention to our students and to have the time needed for intentional planning. It is a comfort to know the resources we need will be ready in a timely manner and that they will also be well-organized when we receive them. She is truly a blessing and we do not know how we would have managed without her this year.



Because of these efforts, she truly deserves the award for 2016-2017 Volunteer of the Year at Camdenton R-III, but also the respect and gratitude of those for whom she serves. Due to her motivation and dedication to service, we strongly urge you to consider her for this award.



**By Malinda Beushausen and Dee Klein
Reading Teachers
Middle School**

Alysia Maschino Volunteer since 2015

In recognition of her outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in helping our kindergarten class and Emerald Springs community, I am pleased to nominate my volunteer for consideration for the 2017 Volunteer of the Year.



The work ethic my volunteer has is amazing. She is always uplifting, helping my class achieve goals for the kindergarten year. But what is also amazing is how the efforts of one person, one particular person, can truly make a difference in helping room 79 achieve so many goals. She has volunteered in my kindergarten class for three years. At Dogwood, she has provided support in multiple ways - from sorting and copying to completing craft projects. In addition to this work, my volunteer has been deeply committed to and involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) group here at Dogwood. She sits on the board of directors for the FCA.

My wonderful volunteer strives to utilize every available opportunity to help our kindergarten class. She accomplishes tasks that others perceive as not to be able to completed. She has organized classroom materials in an effort to keep me organized. She has even helped facilitate several events for FCA. In addition, somehow, she also finds time to be a marvelous mom to two boys and supporting wife of a coach.

Because of these efforts, I feel this volunteer has earned not only the award for “2017 Volunteer of the Year,” but also the respect and gratitude of those for whom and with whom she serves - her church family, her neighborhood residents, and her peers here at Dogwood. As one of those peers whom she has inspired and motivated to service, I strongly urge you to award her the 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award.



By Lisa Allen
Kindergarten Teacher
Dogwood Elementary

Earline Medcalf Volunteer since 1993
and Volunteer of the Year in 2009



“Dear Volunteer”

To the judges: My volunteer has been with me for so many years that she has become a close personal friend. I’ve been thinking so hard about how to make this year’s nomination as unique and special as she is. So, I decided to write her a letter as my nomination so that she personally knows what she means to me. Thank you for taking the time to read it! I hope it showcases what a special human being she is.

Dear Volunteer,

Where do I begin? Eleven years ago (I believe) you were assigned to my classroom as a volunteer. I am so thankful for that year. What a blessing it has been to have you in my life. Sometimes our biggest blessings are the most unexpected ones!

I remember Joi giving me my new volunteer assignment sheet with your name on it. She wrote, “You are very lucky, lady!” Joi already knew how special you were; I would soon find out.

I don’t know if I can find the words to express the impact you make each year on the children in my classroom. Maybe it’s because you were also a teacher, but the kids always notice your presence immediately. It’s like they can feel your kind spirit, and they know how much you care. They know you are there to help them. I love how you are determined to get to know each and every one of them on a personal level. You go out of your way to learn things about each child. Your caring is so genuine and goes way above and beyond the responsibilities of a volunteer.



My favorite times to reminisce about are the funny ones. Remember the time I wanted to show the kids that reading was a “gift”, and I asked you to wrap up books in a big box? Remember how you thought I meant to wrap each INDIVIDUAL book, when

actually I just wanted the big box that was full of books wrapped? That was so funny! We laughed for so long! How many books do you think you got wrapped before I found you? We've shared so many funny stories about our families along the way too, and we've laughed until we cried. I will just say. . .you have had A LOT of experiences in your lifetime! You should write a book!



I had no idea that we would become such good friends along the way. I look forward every summer to our lunch date so we can catch up on things like: which books we've read over the summer (You've read some doozies!), what's been going on with our families and basically solving all the problems of the world (Hee hee). Remember a few summers ago when we were meeting for lunch at a place I had never been to before? I went to the wrong place and was looking for you forever! I kept calling you, but you couldn't hear your phone! Ha! Another great laugh over another wonderful lunch together.

I hope you know that I cherish each and every day we get to spend together. So many times I'm busy with the kindergartners, and I don't get to talk to you as much as I would like to. If it were up to me, we'd sit and visit for an hour each time!

In closing, you truly enrich the lives and education of the children in my classroom. Without your dedication, none of us would enjoy school as much as we do because you are here. Thank you from the very bottom of my heart. You are such an amazing friend and human being with a spirit that reaches many, many hearts. Thank you for your dedication. With a full and humble heart...



**By Amber Keeney
Kindergarten Teacher
Osage Beach Elementary**

Dolores Ovington Volunteer since 2007

There are five days in a school week: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, "Table Lady" Thursday, and Friday. In 2007, at the age of 82, our little "Table Lady" joyfully began coming to school working for all the teachers in the Dogwood Elementary Building.

How did she get her famous name, you might wonder? Well, our "Table Lady" really did not want to learn how to run the copy machines or work directly with students due to catching a possible cold here and there. So, we found her a great place to work -- at a table of course. We then notified the staff of the projects she'd enjoy doing such as tasks teachers need done on a daily basis. She can sort and alphabetize with the best of them! She can count and put items in baggies at record speed. She labels and stuffs envelopes to mail and will not leave until the job is completely finished.

Our little "Table Lady", through the past few years, has had a few set-backs like hip surgery, foot surgery, and a few colds here and there. Then, to top it all off, this past Christmas break she developed pneumonia and was in the hospital. Well... you would think she would stop volunteering after all she has been through, but oh, no... she is the strongest, kindest little (now 92 year old) lady and friend you'll ever meet. Just



think of all she has done over the years. Every Wednesday afternoon a reminder goes out to the Dogwood Elementary building staff and teachers which reminds them our "Table Lady" will be in at 9:00 am on Thursday.

Wow... the jobs for her to complete just come flooding in. And, instead of her name appearing on the volunteer request form, we chuckle when we see the teachers have written in "Table Lady." She will never run out of things to do here at Dogwood or feel as if she is not making a difference for all the teachers and staff.

She is a true example of our 7 Habits: Be Proactive, Begin with the End in Mind, Put First Things First,



Think Win-Win, Seek First to Understand then to be Understood, Synergize, and most of all... Sharpen the Saw. Thank you, "Table Lady," for reminding us each week how to give so graciously to others.

By Dogwood Elementary Staff

Lisa Putnam Volunteer since 2016

My volunteer has helped in many a capacity here at Dogwood Elementary. She has volunteered in the front office, and spent countless hours copying, cutting, and organizing for teachers and staff. She has also assisted by being a mentor for students, allowing them to read to her.



The biggest volunteer position she has filled is as one of the licensed hair stylists to cut students' hair in the Snip It Salon at Dogwood. Her talent shines through when she is able to get some of the difficult-to-handle students through a successful haircut. These students frequently raise their voices and do some wiggling through a haircut. This volunteer has been able to connect and miraculously accomplish her goal. She has cut over half of the haircuts given so far this year! She has stepped in when others have cancelled, giving up her day to fill in so students would not have to wait to get their haircut.

It is truly a pleasure to meet such a warm, energetic personality. She is a huge help!

**By Rebecca Caufield
Social Worker
Dogwood Elementary**



Susie Sartain

I would like to nominate my wonderful volunteer for Volunteer of the Year. She comes every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday without fail. She is a true blessing to have in our classroom. Each week she prepares our materials for our many fun activities.



Thank You!

Each task is done beautifully and without complaint. Not only does she prepare our classroom for each busy week, she also does many wonderful activities with the students. She helps our struggling students master popcorn words that have been tricky for them. The new-found confidence in these students is unbelievable and I can see them blossom even after just a few sessions. The kiddos are so excited to work with her each week and see her smiling face. She is a delight to have around and is this teacher's life line! I can't imagine what we would do without her.

**By Natalie Ricketts
Kindergarten Teacher
Dogwood Elementary**



Ronda Stehle Volunteer since 2008

vol·un·teer
/vələn'tir/
noun

a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.

Our classroom volunteer is the heart of our whole operation. It's a fact that the body cannot function without the heart; well, our classroom could not function without our special volunteer. She takes this definition of

“volunteer” to a whole new level. Every week, she comes during her free time, with a smile and a bear hug when she comes into our busy room. She does all of the “behind the scenes” work: copies, filing, stapling, cutting, laminating, etc. The list could actually go on and on! I know every volunteer does this type of work for his or her teacher(s). But the reason mine stands out is because she goes above





and beyond without even being asked; she uses money out of her own pocket to buy our kiddos treats on holidays; she NEVER complains; she saves me the precious gift of time -- time that can be spent with my other children (the ones who call me “Mommy”) and

my husband; she works hard and completes any task so I don’t have to take it home to interfere with my family time. Also, she helps out her community by not only volunteering to help at Dogwood, but also by contributing through her family business. That’s right! She’s even a local business owner!! I could go on and on but more importantly, I want to just recognize her and all of her hard work. I want her to know the time and love she has put into our classroom has not gone unnoticed. Being Volunteer of the Year would be a tremendous honor for my sweet volunteer. I actually think I have a new definition for her:

su·per·he·ro
 'sōpər,hirō/
 noun

a benevolent fictional character with superhuman powers, such as Superman.

She does possess superhuman powers, this is true. Who else can 1) cut out laminated items at lightning speeds? 2) Sharpen pencils like there’s no tomorrow? 3) Staple book orders with out-of-this-world strength and endurance? 4) Stare the jammed copier in the face with X-ray vision?? That’s right, SHE can!! ☺ But of course I would have to change the definition around just a bit, to something like this:

vol·un·teer wom·an
 /vālən'tir/ 'wōmən/
 noun

a loved, irreplaceable, and benevolent character with superhuman powers, such as Volunteer Woman.



**By Melissa Hollingsworth
 First Grade Teacher
 Dogwood Elementary**



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 the
 World a
 Brighter
 Place**



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