

WEST BONNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #83

APPLE AWARD

IS AWARDED TO

Marsha Cork

CONGRATULATIONS FOR

PARAPROFESSIONALS PLAY AN INTEGRAL AND IMPORTANT ROLE ASSISTING CERTIFIED TEACHERS BY PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TO STUDENTS. SHE EXCEEDS EXPECTATION IN HER ROLE BY MEETING WITH STUDENTS WORKING ON THEIR READING SKILLS EVERY DAY. MARSHA CONTINUALLY EVALUATES STUDENT PROGRESS, ADJUSTING GROUPS ACCORDINGLY, AND CONSULTS WITH CLASSROOM TEACHERS.

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Margaret W. Hall

Margaret W Hall
Trustee, Zone 1

Delbert Pound

Delbert Pound
Trustee, Zone 3

Paul Turco

Paul Turco
Trustee, Zone 2

Ann Yount

Ann Yount
Trustee, Zone 4

Kathy Nash

Kathy Nash
Trustee, Zone 5

Marsha Cork

We often hear the word *Paraprofessional*, but unless a person is in the educational field, they may not understand the role of one. A paraprofessional plays an integral, important role to assist a certified teacher by providing instructional support to students. They often focus on individual and/or small group needs, reinforcing lessons and generally supporting the learning environment under the teacher's direction.

Marsha Cork goes above and beyond the call of duty each day doing exactly that. She exceeds the expectation in her role by meeting with students every day working on their reading skills, continually evaluating their progress, adjusting groups accordingly, and consulting with classroom teachers. Her actions not only benefit the students and classroom teachers but Idaho Hill Elementary as a whole. She shows a strong commitment to her work and inspires others with her actions and attitude, including myself. As I was analyzing data recently, I went to her a bit concerned. Her response to me was "For whatever reason, that happens every year; don't worry." I left feeling a bit less anxious and encouraged.

Marsha is also in charge of IRI and EasyCBM testing, she's part of the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) team, always ensures our staff room is clean, and organizes it when we're having an event. She's outside greeting our students in the morning and sends them well wishes every day when they leave. Marsha is unflappable. She's adaptive. Insightful.

Marsha is making a difference with the students she works with every day. The staff at Idaho Hill Elementary are fortunate and blessed to have her on the team! Thank you, Marsha, for all your hard work and dedication!

Nominated by: Loretta Glazier, Principal

WEST BONNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #83

APPLE AWARD

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Daisy Sjostrom

CONGRATULATIONS FOR

DAISY IS REFLECTIVE, CONSISTENTLY OBSERVES, EVALUATES, AND ADJUSTS MOMENT BY MOMENT BASED ON THE NEEDS OF HER STUDENTS. SHE WORKED HARD AT ESTABLISHING A POSITIVE AND PRODUCTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT BY SETTING CLEAR EXPECTATIONS AND UTILIZING EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR. DAISY HAS DONE A REMARKABLE JOB OF BUILDING A RAPPORT WITH STUDENTS, FOSTERING A SENSE OF TRUST AND RESPECT, AND DOES HER BEST TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK TO HELP HER STUDENTS GROW.

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Daisy Sjostrom

Great teachers don't give up on students with low grades, short attention spans, challenging behaviors, and they also don't ignore or bore high achievers. Teaching is a juggling act, and the teachers who make a difference are those who set high expectations, motivate students, and believe in all of their students, regardless of where they come from or their abilities.

When I started at Idaho Hill this year, I had many professionals approach me regarding the third grade class. I heard there were challenges behaviorally. Academically. Emotionally. It was going to be our largest class in the building. As the year began, my third grade teacher, Daisy Sjostrom, approached me in tears. She felt overwhelmed. She was worried about meeting the needs of all of her students. At that moment, I knew I had the right teacher for the job!

Daisy is reflective. She consistently observes, evaluates, and adjusts moment by moment based on the needs of her students. She worked hard at establishing order and now maintains a positive and productive learning environment, setting clear expectations and effective strategies to address disruptive behavior. She has done a remarkable job of building a rapport with students, fostering a sense of trust and respect, and does her best to provide constructive feedback to help her students grow.

Daisy knows third grade standards well and has the ability to explain skills and concepts clearly and effectively; she often uses digital technology to help support students' learning and recognizes she has a very diverse group of learners, which means she will tailor her approach to meet the needs of all of her students. There isn't a day that goes by that Daisy is not working in a small group setting with her students. If students are not working at the back table with Mrs. Sjostrom, she has it set where students are able to work independently or collaboratively, providing choice for students, depending on their own personal needs. This approach takes time to plan, organize, and execute, which is likely why I see Daisy at school on weekends.

Daisy does an exceptional job working effectively with colleagues and parents to support student learning. Her adaptability has allowed for an *all hands on deck* team approach where the third graders are receiving extra help from many different faculty members. Daisy also has a volunteer who comes in to help her students with math. Great teachers embrace and welcome the extra help and support to do what's best for their students! In our most recent IRI January Benchmark, 81% of Daisy's class showed growth in reading.

The third grade classroom is in good hands with Daisy Sjostrom. All students would be in good hands with her. The staff at Idaho Hill Elementary are fortunate and blessed to have her on the team! Thank you, Daisy, for all your hard work and dedication!

Nominated by: Loretta Glazier, Principal

WEST BONNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #83

APPLE AWARD

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Sonja Sheck

CONGRATULATIONS FOR

PARAPROFESSIONALS ASSIST CERTIFIED TEACHERS BY PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TO STUDENTS, FOCUSING ON INDIVIDUAL AND/OR SMALL GROUP NEEDS, REINFORCING LESSONS, OR SUPPORTING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT UNDER THE TEACHER'S DIRECTION. SONJA IS EXTREMELY CONSCIENTIOUS, WANTING TO MAKE SURE SHE IS DOING HER JOB WELL AND SHOWING A STRONG COMMITMENT TO HER WORK.

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Sonja Sheck

We often hear the word *Paraprofessional*, but unless a person is in the educational field, they may not understand the role of one. Some paraprofessionals wear many different hats. They may assist a certified teacher by providing instructional support to students, focusing on individual and/or small group needs, reinforcing lessons, or supporting the learning environment under the teacher's direction. They may help supervise lunches, monitor recesses, or take command of before and after bus duty.

Sonja Sheck does it all and always with a positive attitude! Her day begins by setting up materials for early morning recess before she greets the students in the morning as they're arriving at school. She is in charge of mid-morning primary and intermediate recess, lunch recess, and afternoon primary recess to ensure the students at Idaho Hill Elementary are safe. When Sonja is not outside, she is helping Kindergartners with their letter recognition and letter sounds. She also works in small reading groups with students who need the extra help.

She exceeds the expectation in her role by meeting with students every day working on their reading skills, continually evaluating their progress, and adjusting groups accordingly. Sonja is extremely conscientious, wanting to make sure she is doing her job well and showing a strong commitment to her work.

Sonja also helps with IRI and EasyCBM testing. She has recess "helpers" who she rewards after completion of their job outside. She sets an expectation for the students she works with and does an amazing job of getting them to grade level. She's outside greeting our students and parents in the morning, and we can count on her to do the same at the end of the school day.

Nominated by: Loretta Glazier, Principal