

2022 Marigold Nominations

Here is what people said about our 2022 Marigold award nominees...

Barbra Donachy

- 1) Barbra is an incredible teacher with such a heart for her students. She is always thinking of ways to improve instruction, curriculum, management, and not just for her kids, but throughout the district. I appreciate her way of approaching problems and finding solutions!
- 2) I want to thank Barbra for being such a positive influence in her community, for her staff and in her class. She truly seems to be in the teaching profession for all the "right" reasons. I nominate her for welcoming me into her school and making me feel like part of a team. Smiling, positive and approachable.
- 3) Warm, playful, kind, nurturing, aware of the needs of others, organized, student-focused, proactive, calm, and sure. So lucky to work by her side. :)

Taryn Williams

- 1) She works hard to make sure others are informed, heard, and supported. She is a great teacher who encourages the whole village to be their best.
- 2) I think Taryn is a really good teacher and her students are lucky to have her teaching them. She shows passion and drive. It shows in her teaching style because she's not one to just hand out worksheets and tell her students to complete the work and turn it in. She has a hands-on style of teaching. I think this is important since her students can never say learning in her classroom is boring.
- 3) Miss Taryn is a smiling, interactive, get 'er done type of teacher. She is a firm but professional advocate for her own students, but never at the expense of any other schools or the district. She is contagious. Her own students are emulating her cheerful service. This year she said "yes" to districtwide Student Government Advisor and almost immediately see the results of her influence. Her officers and herself not only did a great job leading student activities at the XC Running Regionals, but they also inspired nearly 100% joyful participation by the 60-some other students. Great activities! Great leadership! Great participation! That's a Marigold way of doing things!

Jeff Hagen

- 1) Jeff has been a good mentor for me. He communicates with me on a consistent basis and answers any of my questions. He has helped me to feel comfortable and confident in my new role outside of the classroom.
- 2) Jeff has been an excellent resource to me as I have gotten to know the Nondalton students and school system as the new itinerant counselor. His care for his students and community is evident through his tremendous advocacy and consistent communication. His support of students as they strive to reach their goals is palpable, even through Zoom and over the phone.

Marli Nikolaus

- 1) Miss Marli is an ever-cheerful servant-minded teacher. She demonstrates true Marigold qualities of making life better for others and helping them thrive. When asked to go above and beyond with unusual requests which require extra work on her part, there is never a pause or hesitation, but a hearty "absolutely, no problem, as you wish, my pleasure" response. She embraces excellence and inspires her students and onsite teachers to do the same. Marli is a natural-grown Marigold, seemingly effortless in her knack for making others better.

Branden Hummel

- 1) Mr. Hummel is a cheerful, upbeat, can-do teacher who inspires his students with joyful projects, laughable quotes, and friendly personality. We saw his teaching enthusiasm at Katmai Lodge as he inspired us all to be better educators and to find our own passion- not just to copy his passion- to reach students. He is a kid magnet, a pied piper sort of teacher who influences students of all ages. He makes us all better in whatever he does. In addition, he says "yes" to Technology Liaison, "yes" to CTE Liaison, and "yes" to Superintendent's Club, starting a secret service club to teach and model the joys of service to others to his students.

Tim Hatch

- 1) Mr. Hatch is an ever-moving, cheerful, but firm, educator who has his students' and staff's best interest in mind. He is always advocating for more love and more excellence. In less than a week before school started, he had met almost everyone in town, building oh-so-crucial parent and village leader relationships that will yield positive results the whole school year. He praises his teachers and staff like no other, always willing to take a back seat, so another can get any glory. He invests in other educators around the district, like he is on mission to encourage and get to know every person. This Marigold makes us all want to be better friends and better educators to inspire better students.

Sarah Wardell

- 1) Sarah has continually gone above and beyond with our students, working hard to help them meet their in-school goals and objectives while helping several of them to pursue their future career goals through extracurricular opportunities. She is a true value added to our community and school.

Elisabeth Ludwig

- 1) She should be considered for a marigold because she is amazing. I have known her for 2 years, she was my mentor teacher when I was student teaching and I feel so lucky to have learned from her. She puts her students and their feelings before anything else - they also learn how to start managing their own feelings. She is so patient and caring towards her students and people in general. She is also very understanding with everyone

and never judges. She also is a hard worker - she showed me that lesson plans can be done a month ahead of time, only take one Saturday and work all day, but then for the rest of the month you are free from planning and can spend it doing things you love. She is also very knowledgeable and willing to help anyone who has a question about teaching, or life, and she will talk with them until they understand or feel better about the question that they had. She is a social butterfly and is very respectful towards anyone that she meets. She helped me a lot my first year teaching by checking in on me and asking if she can help in anyway, which I needed. I am so lucky have Elisabeth in my life she has helped me grow and continue to grow as an educator and in life.

Dana Wolff

- 1) I think Dana is an excellent role model for her students. I think she does a great job teaching her students. She does some really cool activities with them like using Cheerios to learn to count.

Zoe Anelon

- 1) Zoe is an uplifting coworker. She knows when to reach out and touch base. She supports those around her and is always willing to be a sounding board. Zoe constantly strives to be the best teacher she can be. Her energy is infectious to those around her. You can't help but feel positive after having a conversation with her.

Patty McCasland

- 1) Patty is an amazing educator who inspires her students, creates relationships based on respect and trust, and works tirelessly to improve her instruction. She volunteers cheerfully for so many events outside the school day and has become a true member of the community.

Katie Zimmerman

- 1) Her longevity in providing safe, accountable, cheerful and auspicious teaching routines for the elementary classroom and contributing to success to the overall school

Marina McGourty

- 1) It's not easy being a first year teacher but I think Marina teaches like she has been doing it much longer. She is always working with her students and giving them the instruction they need to be successful. Her students are always engaged and learning new things in her classroom.

Shakim Blackwell

- 1) Shakim is thoughtful and consistent. The support he gives his students and the care he has for them is something I deeply admire. He doesn't ever demand the spotlight although he could. He helps others grow.