



Board of Education
Regular Meeting – July 13, 2026

AGENDA SECTION: Recognitions

ITEM: Employees of the Month

COMMENTS BY: Robb Virgin, Superintendent

Wayzata Public Schools
July 2026 Employees of the Month
Karen Schwendeman
Buildings & Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Department is pleased to recommend Karen Schwendeman as the July Employee of the Month.

The Employee of the Month should be someone who stands out among their peers and makes a difference. Karen Schwendeman has been that person. Karen has worked for the Buildings and Grounds Department since June 2016 as our department administrative professional.

Karen has a great “can do” attitude that is very contagious for anyone who has worked with her. You often hear people ask, “What keeps everything running smoothly and together?” From the operation’s perspective, that is an easy answer—Karen. She has a great understanding of what it takes to do a good job.

One of Karen’s best work attributes is that she has the ability to pivot and redirect as needed. She uses this quality on a daily basis as members of the Buildings and Grounds team look for her assistance in ordering, timesheets, benefits, building activity schedules, etc. The list goes on and on and she provides the assistance needed with hesitation or delay.

Her unsurpassed commitment to excellence has earned the respect and gratitude of her colleagues, staff and district administration. That understanding, combined with her positive attitude and willingness to go the extra mile, makes Karen an outstanding choice to be honored as Wayzata Public Schools' July Employee of the Month.