

Leading Learning Award December 2025

Lori Reuben



Lori Demonstrates sustained and exemplary educational leadership through consistent dedication, creativity, and care for all learners.

- Brings deep knowledge of art and fine-arts technique to every lesson, designing instruction that is accessible, meaningful, and developmentally aligned for center-based learners with complex needs.
- Uses a consistent, patient, and intentional instructional approach that supports students in using their hands to paint, draw, and engage in artmaking—even those who traditionally avoid fine-motor or hands-on tasks.
- Seamlessly blends expert artistic skill with a thoughtful pedagogical approach, tailoring every interaction to the individual learner's abilities, communication needs, and sensory profiles.
- Creates powerful opportunities for non-speaking students to communicate through art, celebrating their unique voices, preferences, and expressive abilities.
- Recently demonstrated extraordinary persistence and leadership by spending months gently building trust with a hard-to-reach student with ASD, ultimately enabling him to work side by side with her on a holiday art project for the very first time.

Lisa Elders



A student was going to be moving from Pine Grove to a local district to maintain LRE. Lisa was great in providing me with the information I needed to make the transfer go smoothly. She went above and beyond by showing up on the student's first day at his new district. She was so helpful and shared a lot of critical information with me, the teacher, paraprofessionals, and the nurse. It made the transition so much better. It would have been a really rough transition had she not shown up that morning. It wasn't required of her, but she went above and beyond and really had a positive impact on everyone involved.