



November 25, 2024

Dear Award Committee Members,

I am privileged to nominate Mrs. Kelly Hepner, a secondgrade teacher at Silver Ridge Elementary, for the prestigious "I Love Teaching" Award. Mrs. Hepner embodies everything this award stands for—exceptional skill, unwavering dedication, and a genuine passion for teaching that inspires everyone around her.

Mrs. Hepner's classroom is a place where learning thrives. Her masterful teaching skills are evident in her ability to engage all learners, meet the diverse needs of her students, and cultivate a love for discovery. She seamlessly integrates evidence-based practices with innovative strategies, making her lessons impactful and memorable. Her students consistently demonstrate growth in their academic and social skills, a testament to her ability to make learning accessible and exciting.

Beyond her exceptional work in the classroom, Mrs. Hepner is a pillar of our school community. As an active PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) leadership team member, she helps create a positive and supportive environment for all students and staff. Her leadership in promoting clear expectations and celebrating student successes has strengthened our school culture. Additionally, as Silver Ridge's Wellness Champion, Mrs. Hepner fosters a sense of well-being across our campus, organizing initiatives supporting teachers' and staff' mental and physical health.

What makes Mrs. Hepner genuinely remarkable is her commitment to continuous growth. She is a lifelong learner who seeks professional development opportunities, reflects on her teaching practices, and incorporates new strategies to refine her craft. Her dedication to self-improvement ensures that she remains at the forefront of best teaching practices, and her students benefit immensely from her pursuit of excellence.

Mrs. Hepner is deeply respected by her colleagues, students, and community members. Her peers admire her collaborative spirit, innovative ideas, and the genuine care she brings to her work. Parents often express gratitude for her profound impact on their children, not only academically but also in fostering confidence and a love for learning.

In every sense of the word, Mrs. Hepner is a teacher who loves teaching, and it shows in all that she does. She exemplifies the qualities we hope to see in all educators and is an inspiring role model within our district. With great enthusiasm and admiration, I nominate Mrs. Hepner for this well-deserved recognition.

Thank you for considering her exceptional contributions to education.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Georgi

Principal, Silver Ridge Elementary