Wednesday, June 6, 2018
George Mason University
Center for the Arts
**Schedule of Events | Wednesday, June 6, 2018**

**Reception 6 p.m.**
Music

**Awards Ceremony 7 p.m.**

Opening

Welcome
Recognition of the Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools
Remarks on behalf of the Foundation

Employee Award Introductions
Employee Award Presentations

- Outstanding Elementary New Teacher
- Outstanding Secondary New Teacher
- Outstanding New Principal

Student Performance

Employee Award Presentations Continue
- Outstanding School-Based Hourly Employee
- Outstanding Nonschool-Based Hourly Employee
- Outstanding School-Based Support Employee
- Outstanding Nonschool-Based Support Employee

Student Performance

Employee Award Presentations Continue
- Outstanding School-Based Leader
- Outstanding Nonschool-Based Leader
- Outstanding Elementary Teacher
- Outstanding Secondary Teacher
- Outstanding Principal

Closing Remarks

**Gypsy Jazz Combo**
West Springfield High School
Keith Owens, Director

**Herndon High School Choir**
Dana Van Slyke, Director

**R Chace Ramey**
Scott Brabrand
Division Superintendent

**Kevin Reynolds**
Regional President, Director of Sales, United Bank
Chair, Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools

**R Chace Ramey**
Scott Brabrand
and Fairfax County School Board and Leadership Team Members

**Kishan Rao**
Vocalist, Herndon High School, Senior

**Allie Lytle**
Vocalist, Herndon High School, Senior

**R Chace Ramey**
The Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of FCPS employees through the annual FCPS Honors event.

Our Mission
The Foundation for FCPS seeds strategic initiatives of FCPS that will engage and inspire students to thrive.

Our Initiatives
State of Education Luncheon, November, 2018
Teacher Grants Program, launched May, 2018.

Workforce Development: STEM training programs including CyberPatriot clubs in middle schools, and VA STAR clubs in middle and high schools.

Kids in Need Fund: erase school lunch debt, provide school supplies, gift cards and other essentials, and fill gap needs for the 52,000+ FCPS students living in poverty.

Employee Recognition Programs: FCPS Honors event and monthly FCPS Cares employee celebrations.

Elizabeth Murphy
Executive Director
foundation@fcps.edu
571-423-1031

To learn more about how you may make a donation to one of our programs or your favorite FCPS school, please visit: www.fcpsfoundation.org

www.facebook.com/FCPSFoundation
@fcpsfoundation
Outstanding New Teacher

The Outstanding New Teacher Award recognizes both an elementary and secondary teacher who are within their first three years of teaching and demonstrate outstanding performance and superior instructional skills. Any FCPS employee or community member may nominate new teachers for this award.

Elementary Finalists

**Julianne Braden, Physical Education Teacher, Laurel Hill ES, Region 4**

Even the students who put up the biggest walls find it hard to resist Julie’s physical education classes. In her two years at Laurel Hill, she’s upped the fitness quotient of the entire school. Her Fitness Fuel Up Videos not only encourage a brain break, but get students moving in class; many have designed their own fitness moves to be included in future videos. She instills a desire to learn with her “Lion of the Week” awards and was named Coach of the Year for taking South County High School’s gymnastics team to Regionals. Fellow staff members describe her as a “kinetic ball of energy,” always ready to pitch in. “Our school would not be the amazing place that it is to work and learn without her,” said one.

**Emily Burke, Multiple Disabilities Teacher, Marshall Road ES, Region 1**

In her short time at Marshall Road, Emily has impressed everyone with her dedication to helping kids with disabilities. When one of her non-verbal students was making progress, but couldn’t get additional funding for home speech therapy. Emily used her lunch time to continue to work with him. Fellow teachers praise her positivity, collaborative nature and ability to remain patient in the face of challenging behavior. She’s sought community-based help for overburdened parents, while guiding their children to new levels of achievement. “Emily completely understands our students,” said a colleague, “and for a first-year teacher, she has an incredibly large bag of tricks to pull from each day.”

**Adrianne Focke, Second Grade Teacher, Oak Hill ES, Region 5**

Adrienne, “Adi,” is a gifted teacher, with a knack for presenting material in a way that is enjoyable and effective. “When I learn something that sounds like it is boring,” said one student, “Ms. Focke always makes it fun. “Parents credit her ability to foster community from day one and her creative methods of encouraging good behavior (she gives a “MAGIC” award to students for “Making Awesome Great Impressive Choices”) with helping their children thrive. Coworkers, meanwhile, are impressed by the intuition and maturity she brings to the job. “Adi is the strongest first year teacher I have worked with in 18 years of teaching,” said one. “I couldn’t dream of a better teammate.”

**Kirsten Looney, Art Teacher, Parklawn ES, Region 2**

Kirsten’s goal is to inspire every student to pursue their creative endeavors. She does this by trying to connect their lives with the art they create, be it picture book illustrations or designs from around the world for Family Reading Night. Kirsten seeks to build relationships with students in and out of class, showcases their art on social media and helps run the yearbook. She even started an afterschool program to develop a school-wide mural that students will design to help boost to pride in Parklawn. “Ms. Looney’s art room is a haven for students,” says a teacher. “It’s a place where everyone has the opportunity to work at their own level and grow as artists.”

**Grace Rubright, Fifth Grade Teacher, Woodley Hills ES, Region 3**

Grace asks herself the same question each day: What are my students able to do as a result of my teaching? Those who work with her at Woodley Hills would say, “a lot.” In her three years there, Grace has proved an innovative teacher who is always looking for new ways to help students succeed. Whether she’s taking a class on math instruction at George Mason University, refocusing a challenging child, or working with ESOL students after school, Grace understands that her kids often come from unstable environments, so she strives to make school safe and predictable. “She sees the good in everyone,” says a colleague, “and has a knack for helping students see their own potential as well.”
Secondary Finalists

**Chris Campbell, Intellectual Disabilities Teacher, Centreville HS, Region 4**

Chris is a special education teacher with an innate talent for encouraging his students to express themselves in creative, unique ways. Colleagues praise his dedication to preparing effective lessons and presenting them to students individually. “I often forget he is just a second-year teacher,” said one. Whether he’s dressing up as the Elf on the Shelf to teach class, engaging a group of students as he walks down the hall, or organizing shuttles to transport his kids to job sites for career prep, Chris exudes patience and understanding. “His passion is to get these students with intellectual disabilities to do whatever they are capable of doing,” said a coworker, “and then do more.”

**Emily Knupp, Biology Teacher, Cooper MS, Region 1**

In just her second year of teaching, Emily has become someone the entire Cooper community turns to for help, collaboration and leadership. Her classroom is a swinging door with students running in and out as they work on real life projects like designing a zoo or protecting the Chesapeake Bay. “Ms. Knupp believes if you give your kids a chance, they will amaze you,” says a fellow teacher, “and her kids love and have thrived on that kind of trust.” She’s also been a driving force behind broadening the use of technology in project-based learning across FCPS. She taught a county-wide course on the subject and created the TechYes blog to provide tips on the best ways to use technology in the classroom.

**Lisa Koch, Librarian, Lee HS, Region 3**

Lisa is the rock star librarian we all remember from our childhoods. She regularly collaborates with teachers to bring lessons to life, whether she’s setting up stations to explore Shakespeare and Renaissance Theater, previewing a podcast on the Greek muses, or engaging students throughout the school in an “Hour of Code.” Thanks to Lisa, Lee High School recently became the only FCPS high school selected to become part of a new initiative to give students an opportunity to use video production for performance-based class projects. “Not only does Lisa have great ideas,” said an administrator, “she has the intellect and the work ethic to bring those ideas to fruition.”

**Jessica Magarelli, Multiple Disabilities Teacher, Westfield HS, Region 5**

When Jessica presented a personal development session for staff entitled “Laughter, Humor and Play to Reduce Stress and Solve Problems,” a colleague quipped: “The session should have been called “How to be Jessica Magarelli.” In teaching students with multiple disabilities, Jessica radiates love and joy whether she’s asking them how they feel, reading and cooking “Green Eggs and Ham” together in the classroom, or supporting good behavior as they stock shelves at Giant. Jessica coaches the high school dance team, whose members frequently visit her class. She also helped reignite the Bulldog Buddies program which pairs each of her students with a peer in general education once a month.

**Emily McCloud, Mathematics Teacher, Stuart HS, Region 2**

During her first year at Stuart, Emily enhanced the instructional culture of the school by implementing a flipped classroom and helped her colleagues learn the technology so they could do it too. Since then, she’s revamped the geometry curriculum to make it more accessible to students learning English, become leader of her collaborative team, and taken on sponsorship of the student government association. Last year, she organized the graduation ceremony and began mentoring at-risk students. Colleagues praise her maturity and caring nature, which makes everyone at the school feel valued. “Emily, “said a teacher, “provides the hope that the student population needs to be successful.”
School Recipients

Annandale Terrace Elementary School
Brooke Morris, Third Grade Teacher

Bailey’s Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences
Theresa Yenouskas, Special Education Teacher

Beech Tree Elementary School
Kathryn Pfleger, Fifth Grade Teacher

Belle View Elementary School
Lauren Marasti, Third Grade Teacher

Braddock Elementary School
Marissa Goldman, Third Grade Teacher

Bren Mar Park Elementary School
Allison Kaye, Third Grade Teacher

Bryant High School
Daniel Simpson, Math Teacher*

Bush Hill Elementary School
Mary Beth Parks, Fourth Grade Teacher

Camelot Elementary School
Aimee DeSoto, Art Teacher *

Cameron Elementary School
Ashley Blenz, Sixth Grade Teacher

Centre Ridge Elementary School
Andrea Lobo, Third Grade Teacher *

Chantilly High School
Emily Clark, Math Teacher

Cherry Run Elementary School
Emily Miller, Learning Disabilities Teacher

Chesterbrook Elementary School
Natalie Mabile, Fourth Grade Teacher

Columbia Elementary School
Caleb Gildea, Fourth Grade Teacher *

Crossfield Elementary School
Heather Sasala, Second Grade Teacher

Daniels Run Elementary School
Patricia Cotter, Sixth Grade Teacher *

Davis Career Center
Daniel Nguyen, Career and Transition Teacher

Dogwood Elementary School
Ashley Ayala, Sixth Grade Teacher

Dranesville Elementary School
Caroline Hester, Learning Disabilities Teacher *

Eagle View Elementary School
Sarah Erbes, Kindergarten Teacher

Edison High School
Antionette Morgan, English Teacher

Fairfax High School
Jessie Roy, Spanish Teacher*

Fairfax Villa Elementary School
Christy Fesak, Special Education Teacher *

Fairview Elementary School
Carolyn Smith, Third Grade Teacher

Falls Church High School
Nick Hartman, History and Social Studies Teacher*

Flint Hill Elementary School
Kathleen Allen, Multiple Disabilities Teacher

Floris Elementary School
Heather Einset, Fifth Grade Teacher

Forestville Elementary
Kari Vollmecke, First Grade Teacher

Fort Belvoir Primary School
Kaitlyn Falstad, First Grade Teacher

Fort Belvoir Upper School
Jenny Reisinger, Special Education Teacher

Fort Hunt Elementary School
Sarah Goings, Enhanced Autism Teacher *

Franconia Elementary School
Kenan Brod, Physical Education Teacher

Franklin Sherman Elementary School
Nicole Nersten, Fourth Grade Teacher

Garfield Elementary School
Kelsey Nichols, Special Education Teacher

Glasgow Middle School
Kaitlyn Marmarou, Science Teacher

Halley Elementary School
Hemanalini Keshava, Fourth Grade Teacher

Hayfield Elementary School
Elena Nolton, Kindergarten Teacher *

Hayfield Secondary School
Cece Lamoreau, Special Education Teacher*

Holmes Middle School
James Cho, Math Teacher*

Hunters Woods Elementary School
Vanessa Beverage, First Grade Teacher*
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Teacher Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Irving Middle School</td>
<td>Amanda Gittens, Special Education Teacher</td>
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<td>Island Creek Elementary School</td>
<td>Lindsey Miller, Physical Education Teacher</td>
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<td>Keene Mill Elementary School</td>
<td>Erika Guevara, Special Education Teacher</td>
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<td>Kent Gardens Elementary School</td>
<td>Catalina Moore, Third Grade Teacher *</td>
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<td>Kilmer Middle School</td>
<td>Katelyn Sweeney, English Teacher</td>
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<td>Kings Park Elementary School</td>
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<td>Lake Anne Elementary School</td>
<td>Megan Danielson, Fourth Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Lake Braddock High School</td>
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<td>Lane Elementary School</td>
<td>Sarah Gunter, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Langley High School</td>
<td>Mark Witzel, History and Social Studies Teacher</td>
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<td>Lees Corner Elementary School</td>
<td>Nicole Donohoe, Fourth Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Liberty Middle School</td>
<td>Francesca Burgess, English Teacher</td>
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<td>Little Run Elementary School</td>
<td>Christina Norico, Second Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>London Towne Elementary School</td>
<td>Stephanie Carey, Fifth Grade Teacher *</td>
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<td>Longfellow Middle School</td>
<td>Jessica Carpenter, Science Teacher</td>
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<td>Louise Archer Elementary School</td>
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<td>Lynbrook Elementary School</td>
<td>Taylor Heil, Third Grade Teacher *</td>
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<td>Madison High School</td>
<td>Sarah Bartosiak, History and Social Studies Teacher*</td>
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<td>Mantua Elementary School</td>
<td>Cristy Flynn, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Marshall High School</td>
<td>Michael Bayyouk, Learning Disabilities Teacher*</td>
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<td>McLean High School</td>
<td>Seth LeBlanc, English Teacher*</td>
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<td>Mosby Woods Elementary School</td>
<td>Yoni Lee, Third Grade Advanced Academics Program Teacher</td>
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<td>Mount Eagle Elementary School</td>
<td>Alexandra Hoge, Fifth Grade Teacher *</td>
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<td>Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School</td>
<td>Juliana Sorrentino, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Navy Elementary School</td>
<td>Kelli Taranto, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Oak View Elementary School</td>
<td>Brooke Brylawski, Kindergarten Teacher *</td>
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<td>Oakton Elementary School</td>
<td>Kelly Baucom, Kindergarten Teacher *</td>
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<td>Oakton High School</td>
<td>Candice Tenerelli, Special Education Teacher*</td>
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<td>Olde Creek Elementary School</td>
<td>Kate Pyatt, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Orange Hunt Elementary School</td>
<td>Emily Slovensky, Fourth Grade Teacher *</td>
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<td>Poplar Tree Elementary School</td>
<td>Andrea Williams, Art Teacher</td>
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<td>Providence Elementary School</td>
<td>Samantha Kehn, Special Education Teacher</td>
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<td>Ravensworth Elementary School</td>
<td>Erika Peterson, Spanish Immersion Teacher</td>
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<td>Riverside Elementary School</td>
<td>Helen Lang, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Robinson Secondary School</td>
<td>Tess Layer, English Teacher*</td>
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<td>Rocky Run Middle School</td>
<td>Michael Leonberger, Special Education Teacher*</td>
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<td>Rose Hill Elementary School</td>
<td>Caelyn Wafford, First Grade Teacher</td>
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<td>Sandburg Middle School</td>
<td>Caitlin Marshall, Seventh Grade Science Teacher</td>
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<td>Sangster Elementary School</td>
<td>Victoria Winkler, Special Education Teacher</td>
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<td>Saratoga Elementary School</td>
<td>Lori Rodriguez, Kindergarten Teacher</td>
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<td>Shrevewood Elementary School</td>
<td>Thomas Hearin, Third Grade Teacher</td>
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Silverbrook Elementary School  Jordan Britcher, Fourth Grade Teacher
Sleepy Hollow Elementary School  Camille Battah, Third Grade Teacher
South Lakes High School  Nicole Marinucci, Math Teacher*
Springfield Estates Elementary School  Jillian Domenech, Sixth Grade Math and Science Teacher
Stratford Landing Elementary School  Jacque Wagner, Fifth Grade Teacher
Sunrise Valley Elementary School  Tina Bowser, First Grade Teacher
Terra Centre Elementary School  Tara Worth, Special Education Teacher
Twain Middle School  Erin Murphy, Science Teacher*
Union Mill Elementary School  Christine Waters, Fourth Grade Teacher
Virginia Run Elementary School  Amanda Dey, Second Grade Teacher
Wakefield Forest Elementary School  Catherine Wilkerson, Special Education Teacher
West Potomac High School  Mark Klucharich, History and Social Studies Teacher
West Springfield High School  Madison McKenna, Special Education Teacher*
Westgate Elementary School  Katherine Esselburn, Special Education Teacher *
White Oaks Elementary School  Erin Morency Special Education Teacher *
Willow Springs Elementary School  Jessica Boger, Learning Disabilities Teacher
Woodson High School  Maria Fidler, Spanish Teacher*

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Outstanding New Principal

The Outstanding New Principal Award recognizes a distinguished educator and extraordinary leader who is within their first three years as principal. The recipient is an innovative and exceptional manager whose vision inspires and guides staff, students, and the community to help lead the school to excellence. Any FCPS employee or community member may nominate a principal for the Outstanding New Principal Award.

Finalists

Cindy Conley, Irving MS, Region 4

Cindy’s willingness to engage everyone – from teachers and students to parents and the community, has helped Irving Middle School thrive during her first year as principal. While she studies each student’s background before making a class assignment, she defers to the parents if they think there is an issue. She encourages students to take ownership of their learning, and works with outside partners to assist families in need. She’s also creative in using school resources; classroom walls were stripped down and painted so they could be used as whiteboards. “What makes Cindy Conley outstanding,” said one, “is that she finds exploration exciting and is willing to take the risk to make our school a better place.”

Eric Johnson, Sleepy Hollow ES, Region 2

Eric combines a desire to celebrate Sleepy Hollow’s accomplishments with a drive to move the school forward. Since his arrival in 2016, he’s expanded the Advanced Academic Program, launched plans for the first outside classroom, brought STEAM lessons to students, and helped boost the school to a 95% pass rate on the English and Math SOLs. When the risk of deportation became a real concern for some students last year, Eric not only went classroom to classroom to calm their fears, he taught their classmates how to show compassion. “He is constantly looking for opportunities to enhance not only the academic endeavors of his students,” said one teacher, “but the world in which they live.”

Amy Miller, Principal, Saratoga ES, Region 3

Amy has made a huge impact at Saratoga in a very short time. In two and a half years, she’s boosted parent involvement, brought in peer mediation, and developed a culture where teachers are eager to learn new things. SOL scores are up, discipline referrals are down, and some parents who were considering leaving say they are glad they stuck around. “Mrs. Miller brought our school back to life,” said one mom. Colleagues especially praise her remarkable recall of individual circumstances and academic data. This enables quick intervention, something Amy has been known to do herself by personally calling families when a student is struggling.

Jill Stewart, Lake Anne ES, Region 1

Jill wants the community to see her school as a partner in raising well-adjusted and well-equipped children. She encourages Lake Anne staff and families to build strong relationships and sets an example with her involvement. Recently, she supplemented regular monthly parent coffees with a “Cafecito,” complete with translators, to help the school’s large Spanish-speaking population keep in touch. Known for hiring great teachers, Jill showcases them at events like the “Best of Reston” Awards and empowers them to take risks. “She never shies away from projects that will enhance instruction,” said one.

Dustin Wright, Olde Creek ES, Region 5

Dustin has helped transform Olde Creek into a school where people are proud to work. He did it by involving both staff and the community in drafting a 3-year improvement plan that is already having an impact. Staff teams now meet biweekly for data-driven discussions about student success, while teachers are encouraged to try new things and often find supportive notes from Dustin in their mailbox. Parents turned out in record numbers when asked for input at his first State of the School meeting, and families have been drawn in by events like “Popsicles with the Principal.” “He is exceptionally passionate about education, said a parent, “and his tireless positive energy is contagious.”
**School Recipients**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Recipient Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bucknell Elementary School</td>
<td>LaRonda Peterson</td>
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<td>Bush Hill Elementary School</td>
<td>Mary Duffy</td>
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<td>Colin Powell Elementary School</td>
<td>Jamie Luerssen</td>
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<td>Falls Church High School</td>
<td>Ben Nowak</td>
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<td>Flint Hill Elementary School</td>
<td>Jennifer Hertzberg</td>
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<td>Glasgow Middle School</td>
<td>Shawn DeRose</td>
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<td>Haycock Elementary School</td>
<td>Jerome Donnelly</td>
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<td>Herndon Elementary School</td>
<td>Teresa Fennessy</td>
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<td>Holmes Middle School</td>
<td>Margaret Barnes</td>
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<td>Langley High School</td>
<td>Frederick Amico, Jr.</td>
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<td>Mark Twain Middle School</td>
<td>Charles Miller</td>
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<td>Poplar Tree Elementary School</td>
<td>Susan Andujar</td>
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<td>Providence Elementary School</td>
<td>Danny Phillips</td>
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<td>Wakefield Forest Elementary School</td>
<td>Sharyn Prindle</td>
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<td>Westfield High School</td>
<td>Tony Copeland</td>
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*Pyramid-Level Recipient*
Outstanding Hourly Employee

The Outstanding Hourly Employee award celebrates non-contracted employees who have made a unique and exceptional contribution to FCPS through their work. The recipients, one school-based and one nonschool-based, demonstrate commitment and leadership in their work and foster cooperative relationships with colleagues and the community. To be eligible, employees must have completed at least one year of hourly employment at the same worksite and have worked a minimum of hours during that period. Any FCPS employee or community member can nominate an employee for the Outstanding Hourly Employee Award.

School-Based Finalists

Teri Crawford, Testing Support Assistant, Robinson SS, Region 4
Teri is one of primary reasons Robinson Secondary School has become a premier testing site in Fairfax County. As an hourly testing support assistant, Teri helps the school administer more than 10,000 tests each year. This includes hours of work; from choosing and preparing the test location to making sure that everyone – from students to instructors whose classrooms are being used – is being accommodated. Teachers praise her efficiency, cooperation and ability to find a solution to any testing challenge. “Teri is always there with a smile on her face,” says one, “ready to tackle the inevitable testing disruption.“When students succeed, notes another, “Teri is as overjoyed as they are.”

Stacey Evers, Environmental Education Teacher, Belvedere ES, Region 2
Thanks to Stacey’s efforts, Belvedere students have raised trout, studied the water quality in the Potomac and Anacostia rivers, and started a seedling nursery to improve the local tree canopy. Fellow teachers praise her ability to turn outdoors spaces into extensions of their classrooms, which led to Belvedere’s designation as a Virginia Naturally School. Stacey has students monitor trash consumption and compost lunch waste as members of the Waste Watchers and Green Team Club and invites parents along when the Outdoors Club visits a different county park each month. “So many of our students take action every day because of the role model in Ms. Evers,” said one administrator.

Lynn Hill, Band Administrative Assistant, Woodson HS, Region 5
Lynn is credited with being the power behind Woodson High School’s band program. An incredible administrative assistant who is always willing to accept new challenges, Lynn became the go-to person as the band has transitioned the past 3 years. Without her support, students’ note, band camps, Tunes for Tots, awards nights, and many concerts throughout the year would not have happened. She also organizes uniforms and serves as a sounding board for 9th grade parents and has been known to drop everything so that a student doesn’t have to miss class. As one colleague noted, “Lynn is the perfect mix of consummate professional and the caring parent who is always looking out for her kids.”

Elizabeth Rivera, Parent Liaison, Key MS, Region 3
When she started as parent liaison at Key Middle School, Liz launched “Kid’s Kudos” so teachers can message her about students doing well in school. She then shares these positive messages with their families, where English is often not the primary language at home. Many kids said their parents cried with joy when Liz telephoned because they expected the school only to call about something negative. A former social worker, Liz has leveraged relationships with businesses and charitable organizations to aid needy families and thinks nothing of spending 90-minutes helping a student talk with her mother. “Liz is everywhere around Key and her presence is a strong one,” said one teacher.

Jo Wechselblatt, Parent Liaison, Hunters Woods ES, Region 1
As a parent liaison, Jo works tirelessly to support the large population of students and families at Hunter Woods Elementary who need assistance. A long-time PTA member, she’s a problem-solver known for her willingness to listen and provide help. “Her natural tendency to advocate for students is unmatched,” says a coworker. Indeed, Jo makes sure every child gets access to field trips and has partnered with local businesses to obtain school supplies, food donations, and scholarship support for students. She also runs an annual coat drive and keeps an assortment of clothes in her office, she told a colleague, to loan kids who “might need a little more variety in their wardrobe.”
School Recipients

Annandale Terrace Elementary School  Raquel Goetzinger, Spanish Parent Liaison
Bryant High School  Charlotte Drumheller, Front Office Assistant *
Bull Run Elementary School  Maria Betancourth, Parent Liaison *
Colin Powell Elementary School  Grace Oh, Cafeteria Hostess
Crossfield Elementary School  Cheryl Elias, Dining Room Assistant *
Daniels Run Elementary School  Cristina Del Campo, Parent Liaison
Eagle View Elementary School  Ann Fiem, Parent Liaison
Fairfax High School  Darci Richard, Testing Coordinator Assistant
Hayfield Secondary School  Martha Campbell, Middle School Student Services Assistant *
Herndon Elementary School  Raquel Snyder, Parent Liaison
Kilmer Middle School  Maria Peal, Parent Liaison
Lake Braddock Middle School  Pat Fausser, Middle School Registrar *
Lane Elementary School  Melanie Zayas, Parent Liaison
Lorton Station Elementary School  Tania Musket, Parent Liaison
Luther Jackson Middle School  Linda Siles, Parent Liaison
Lynbrook Elementary School  Martha Abreu, Parent Liaison
Oakton Elementary School  Kim Payne, Cafeteria Hostess
Providence Elementary School  Diana Stewart, Dining Room Assistant *
Rocky Run Middle School  Helen Seo, Parent Liaison *
Rose Hill Elementary School  Dalia Purcell, Parent Liaison
Silverbrook Elementary School  Kathleen Mancini, Cafeteria Hostess *
South County Middle School  Abby Mundt, Library Assistant
Springfield Estates Elementary School  Jackie Trejo, Parent Liaison
Twain Middle School  Ligia D. Diaz, Parent Liaison *

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Outstanding Hourly Employee

Nonschool-Based Finalists

**Sabrina Boyd, Special Projects Liaison, Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Instructional Services**

When a school missed a scholarship deadline last year due to a staffer on medical leave, Sabrina was quick to get the students’ applications accepted. Increasing access to opportunities has been a hallmark of her tenure in the Office of Counseling and College and Career Readiness. In less than two years, she’s streamlined registration and payment for College Fair/College Night, boosting attendance and saving FCPS more than $5,000. She’s also increased awareness of professional development opportunities and scholarships. “I have rarely seen a person able to embrace her job with such joy, commitment and skill,” says a veteran administrator. “Sabrina’s demeanor says, ‘Okay folks, let’s do this.’”

**Mary Crowson, Website Content Editor, Gatehouse Administration Center, Chiefs Offices**

Mary has been a driving force in helping FCPS schools take their websites mobile. In addition to providing one-to-one technical support to individual locations, she’s developed an eLearnIT course and YouTube training videos. These have earned rave reviews and contributed to a division-wide effort to get parents more involved with school websites. Coworkers praise her meticulousness under tight deadlines. “She’s constantly reviewing and rewriting the web pages so they are the best possible,” said one. At the same time, they say, Mary always makes time to answer questions. Thanks to her, nearly all 205 schools are expected to have migrated to the new format by the end of the year.

**Anith Muthalaly, Warehouse Assistant, Forte Center, Financial Services**

In less than two years with FCPS, Anith has made what his supervisors praise as “unparalleled contributions” to Financial Services. While attending college full-time, he spearheaded the development of an automated system for receiving and redistributing furniture among the schools. This game-changing application not only improved the efficiency of reusing equipment, but is expected to save schools thousands of dollars in new purchases. Managers praise Anith as hardworking and willing to learn anything. As one noted, “It is rare to see a young person with the business skills that Anith brings with him every day.”

**Janet Sorlin-Davis, Homebound Teacher and Hourly Data Analyst, Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Special Services**

Janet deftly handles a dual role at FCPS, providing a big payoff to both students and the school system. As a homebound teacher skilled in developing trust, she’s formed bonds with students and families that have proven difficult for other teachers and school staff. Known for going above and beyond, it’s not unusual for her to visit children in a DC hospital on weekends. Meanwhile, the data Janet mines through projects like the Fairfax County Youth Survey has enabled her to make connections that help schools target the best support programs. Her analysis and observations on trends, combined with school-based intervention, notes one colleague, “have actually saved student lives.”
Outstanding Support Employee

The Outstanding Support Employee Award recognizes support employees who have made unique and exceptional contributions to FCPS. Recipients, both school-based and nonschool-based, demonstrate commitment and foster cooperative relationships with colleagues and in the community. Any FCPS employee or community member may nominate a support employee that is a US-19 or below and has held their position for at least one full year for the Outstanding Support Employee Award.

School-Based Finalists

**Gabriela Codispoti, Administrative Assistant, Mount Eagle ES, Region 3**

Gabriela has been described as the glue that holds Mount Eagle together. Administrators credit her with saving FCPS thousands of dollars by striving to get the best deals for the school, while becoming an expert on the intricacies of Title I funding. On top of keeping the office running smoothly and making sure teachers have the resources and support they need, Gabriela is always there to help – whether she’s comforting a concerned parent, finding funds for field trips, or borrowing the custodian’s industrial vacuum to mop up after a broken pipe. “Simply put,” said a colleague, “Gabriela makes it easy to accomplish things.”

**Tara Fortune, Administrative Assistant, Longfellow MS, Region 2**

Tara is the person everyone at Longfellow goes to when they need help. For ten years, she’s kept the school’s office running while also giving out medications to students, and sending out weekly communications to covering class when the teacher is absent. She serves as wellness and awards liaison, gives up her summers to help run the middle school readiness program and advises student teams who work to prevent suicide and bullying. “Tara has a way of being like the understanding big sister even as she serves as an authority figure,” says a colleague. “Just as staff members know we can go to Tara, so do the students.”

**Ryan Good, Instructional Assistant, Robinson SS, Region 4**

Ryan has used his technological expertise to help build a family culture at Robinson. In addition to sponsoring the student-led “Good Morning Robinson” daily news program, he livestreams the school’s athletic and academic events and coaches freshmen football. A catalyst for inclusion, Ryan has taught students with disabilities how to film events, recorded a 20-CD collection of audio tapes for struggling readers, made a special needs student a manager and water boy for the football team, and helped an autistic student pursue a career as a broadcaster. “Ryan is one of a kind,” said a colleague, “and I doubt that I will ever come across another instructional assistant like him.”

**Zerina Hasin, Instructional Assistant, Sunrise Valley ES, Region 1**

Zerina encourages students to participate in their own way, which allows them to blossom. As an instructional assistant in the enhanced autism program, she’s praised for her calm positivity and ability to really get to know her students. Not only can she describe their IEP accommodations in detail, says a colleague, “she can also name their favorite snacks, siblings’ names and pets.” Despite her regular schedule, Zerina has continued to support a group of 4th grade boys since their first day of school. She goes out of her way to help coworkers as well. “Zerina is the first to volunteer for the hardest and most mundane jobs,” said one. “Her resilience is a great asset to our entire community.”

**Nelson Villalobos, Safety and Security Assistant, Frost MS, Region 5**

Nelson is the reassuring voice on the walkie-talkie when teachers call for help – and he’s typically the first to respond. Hired as a security officer for the school’s comprehensive services site, Nelson is beloved for his calm demeanor and gift for dealing with at risk students. “No other staff member has been as effective as Mr. Villalobos,” says a teacher. “He makes kids in crisis feel cared for, supported and ultimately safe. Nelson also goes well beyond his job description, directing traffic at kiss and ride, setting up for events, translating for non-English speaking parents, implementing drills, and designing safety protocol. He’ll even grab a broom and sweep the lunchroom.”
### School Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annandale Terrace Elementary School</td>
<td>Senait Beresu</td>
<td>Kindergarten Instructional Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belle View Elementary School</td>
<td>Ficela Espinoza</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Brae Elementary School</td>
<td>Mimi Depuy</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braddock Elementary School</td>
<td>Jakelin Lake</td>
<td>Parent Liaison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bren Mar Park Elementary School</td>
<td>Jose Santamaria</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brookfield Elementary School</td>
<td>Brenda Harrison</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryant High School</td>
<td>Mary Kay Whitby</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull Run Elementary School</td>
<td>Mary Obarowski</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
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<td>Bush Hill Elementary School</td>
<td>Sulma Canizalez</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camelot Elementary School</td>
<td>Lotta Moschopoulouso</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameron Elementary School</td>
<td>Digna Flores</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carson Middle School</td>
<td>Lesa Lloyd</td>
<td>Student Services Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centreville Elementary School</td>
<td>Cindy Luck</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
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<td>Centreville High School</td>
<td>Angela Dorrzapf</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chantilly High School</td>
<td>Roberta Robinson</td>
<td>Safety &amp; Security Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherry Run Elementary School</td>
<td>Dany Chiquillo</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clermont Elementary School</td>
<td>Lisa M. Gibson</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colin Powell Elementary School</td>
<td>Anne Bonner</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooper Middle School</td>
<td>Jannie Nagbe</td>
<td>Assistant Building Supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossfield Elementary School</td>
<td>Janet George</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniels Run Elementary School</td>
<td>Sam Wilson</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Davis Career Center</td>
<td>Kevin Bosworth</td>
<td>Public Health Training Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer Park Elementary School</td>
<td>Peggy Van Cleave</td>
<td>Student Information Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dogwood Elementary School</td>
<td>Evie Rodriguez</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dranesville Elementary School</td>
<td>Prajakta Sapre</td>
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<td>Eagle View Elementary School</td>
<td>Joyce Baker</td>
<td>Student Information Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edison High School</td>
<td>Linda Hirschhorn</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairfax High School</td>
<td>Lorie Spelman</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairfax Villa Elementary School</td>
<td>Mary Kalpos</td>
<td>Special Education Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairhill Elementary School</td>
<td>Amy Spector</td>
<td>Student Information Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairview Elementary School</td>
<td>Kathy Krug</td>
<td>Time and Attendance Office Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flint Hill Elementary School</td>
<td>Karen Fischer</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Floris Elementary School</td>
<td>Yeni Moreno</td>
<td>Building Supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Belvoir Primary School</td>
<td>Brandon Flynn</td>
<td>Office Assistant and Giau Ngo, Building Supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Belvoir Upper School</td>
<td>Cesar Machado</td>
<td>Building Supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Hunt Elementary School</td>
<td>Penny Viar</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franconia Elementary School</td>
<td>Danielle Weintraub</td>
<td>Special Education Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Middle School</td>
<td>Gwen Dillon</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Sherman Elementary School</td>
<td>Shelley Alexander Toussaint</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glasgow Middle School</td>
<td>Mary Geary</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gunston Elementary School</td>
<td>Wanda Looney</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halley Elementary School</td>
<td>Percy Delgado</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haycock Elementary School</td>
<td>Kim Nguyen</td>
<td>Food Services Worker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hayfield Elementary School  Lisa Warden, Office Assistant
Hayfield Secondary School  Anita Mitchell, Administrative Assistant *
Herndon Elementary School  Laura Santini, Office Assistant
Herndon High School  Cesar Quintanilla, Custodian
Hollin Meadows Elementary School  Gregory Thomas, Cafeteria Manager *
Holmes Middle School  Silvia Orellana, Office Assistant
Hunt Valley Elementary School  Ann Rodriguez, Student Information Assistant *
Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences  Connie Hernandez, Office Assistant
Irving Middle School  Willie Finney, Building Engineer
Keene Mil Elementary School  Deborah Geiger, Administrative Assistant
Kent Gardens Elementary School  Adan Alvarez, Custodian
Key Middle School  Abesh Ghile, Instructional Assistant
Kilmer Center  Betsy Guevara, Public Health Attendant
Kilmer Middle School  Jerry Gonzalez, Instructional Assistant
Kings Park Elementary School  Peter Henry, Special Education Instructional Assistant
Lake Anne Elementary School  Younsoon Kang, Public Health Training Assistant
Lake Braddock High School  Stella Zoccoli-Perez, Parent Liaison
Lake Braddock Middle School  Kara Payne, Office Assistant
Lanier Middle School  Mary -Trippe Everett, Instructional Assistant
Laurel Hill Elementary School  Karen Frucruoso, Instructional Assistant
Laurel Ridge Elementary School  Penny Gaddis, Instructional Assistant *
Lee High School  Betty Nolan, Student Information Assistant *
Lees Corner Elementary School  Sharon Stemme, Administrative Assistant
Liberty Middle School  Christine Clancy, Instructional Assistant *
London Towne Elementary School  Kwadwo Agyei, Custodian
Lorton Station Elementary School  Carlos Saldana, Custodian
Louise Archer Elementary School  Keyana Jackson, Instructional Assistant
Luther Jackson Middle School  Steve Fox, Building Engineer
Madison High School  Renee Hoppis, Special Education Instructional Assistant
Mantua Elementary School  Cindy Blakeley, Director of Student Services
Marshall High School  Thushara Passela, Instructional Assistant
McNair Elementary School  Jackie Vargas, Food Services Kitchen Manager
Mosby Woods Elementary School  Thelma Pemberton-Abbott, Instructional Assistant *
Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School  Carol Cromack, Instructional Assistant
Navy Elementary School  Catherine Goodson, Instructional Assistant
Newington Forest Elementary School  Dee Dee Fox, Instructional Assistant
North Springfield Elementary School  Ellen Toole, Instructional Assistant
Oak Hill Elementary School  Erin Doyle, Office Assistant
Oakton Elementary School  Matt Satchell, Building Supervisor
Oakton High School  Sandy McCulloch, Office Assistant
Olde Creek Elementary School  Claudia Lupoletti, Instructional Assistant
Parklawn Elementary School  Mary Farris, Kindergarten Instructional Assistant
Poplar Tree Elementary School  Cindy Howe, Instructional Assistant *
Providence Elementary School

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Pulley Career Center  Suzanne Maloney, Office Assistant
Riverside Elementary School  Kathy Lehner, Special Education Instructional Assistant
Rocky Run Middle School  Joan Fontz, Office Assistant
Rose Hill Elementary School  Nelly Aren, Office Assistant
Sandburg Middle School  Fredys Sorto, Custodian
Sangster Elementary School  Marian Hoelscher, Office Assistant *
Saratoga Elementary School  Stella Zoccoli-Perez, Parent Liaison
Shrevewood Elementary School  Jennifer Buchanan, Student Information Assistant
Silverbrook Elementary School  Mary Anne Haskins, Library Assistant *
Sleepy Hollow Elementary School  Maria de Lourdes Jessel, Office Assistant *
South County Middle School  Cheryl Castro, Instructional Assistant
South Lakes High School  Barbara Posey, Custodian
Springfield Estates Elementary School  Megan Brooks, Office Assistant
Stone Middle School  Helen Bowden, Instructional Assistant
Stratford Landing Elementary School  Kristine Gunther, Public Health Training Assistant
Terraset Elementary School  Laura Wineland, Instructional Assistant
Timber Lane Elementary School  Judy Jackson Roberts, Instructional Assistant
Twain Middle School  Humera Khadir, Instructional Assistant
Union Mill Elementary School  Susan Brown, Administrative Assistant
Virginia Run Elementary School  Constance Hall, Special Education Instructional Assistant
Wakefield Forest Elementary School  Michelle Lucas, Library Assistant
Waynewood Elementary School  Rae Burke, Instructional Assistant
West Potomac High School  Larry Tanh, Special Education Instructional Assistant
West Springfield High School  Douglas Gomez-Arias, Custodian and Sara Tesfatsion, Instructional Assistant
Westfield High School  Araceli Manoatl, Parent Liaison and Sharida Painter, Student Information Assistant
Weyanoke Elementary School  Stephanie Wilson, Administrative Assistant *
Willow Springs Elementary School  Tracy Harbold, Administrative Assistant
Wolfrap Elementary School  Donna Orasin, Office Assistant *
Woodburn Elementary School  Robyn Fernandez, Parent Liaison and Jackie Garcia, Student Information Assistant

Nonschool-Based Finalists

Gracie Mendez Arellano, Early Childhood Nutrition Technician, Leis Center, Instructional Services
Gracie provides extraordinary support to the 800 students and families involved in the Early Childhood Education program. She’s streamlined the health and nutrition systems and provided a more enhanced experience by having staff present at enrollment appointments. She also revamped the registration system at Mount Vernon, so more families and children are ready on the first day of classes. Colleagues says she’s great at establishing rapport, whether visiting a family at home or stopping by one of the 60 classrooms she visits each quarter. “No matter what is going on,” says one, “Gracie makes a unique and exceptional contribution through her selfless dedication to meeting the needs of others.”

Kevin Brown, Warehouse Supervisor, Woodson Food Services Warehouse, Financial Services
On a snow day earlier this year when employees were advised to stay home, Kevin drove to the Food Services Center to make sure FCPS stocked the essentials students needed when they returned. Such dedication is typical for Kevin who, as warehouse supervisor, leads a team that provides food for some 142,000 customers daily, while also overseeing $1 million in inventory. Colleagues praise him as a humble manager and master of logistics. In the face of snow days and vendor shortages, he is known for his positive attitude and quick focus on problem solving. “He is exceptional,” said one, “when dealing with issues that are beyond his control.”

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Rebecca Burson, Bus Driver, Lorton Center, Transportation
In three decades as a school bus driver, Rebecca has become a “transportation legend” at Wakefield Forest Elementary School. Known for her laughter and caring nature, as much as for her safety record, Miss Becky has shepherded a generation of kindergartners to school for the first time. She’s also made sure the big kids are treating each other well, mentored countless crossing guards, and even let parents know if their child had a tough day. “She doesn’t just drive and deliver our children to school,” said one parent, “she envelopes them in a warm and comforting environment and starts and ends our children’s school day on a positive note.”

Llexell Evangelista, TMPC Supervisor, Nancy Sprague Technology Center, Information Technology
When students at Edison High School staged a production of “Oklahoma,” a chorus of actors sang “where the wind blows softly oe’r the plains” against a backdrop of a massive field of wheat waving in the breeze. The 9x12 screens supporting this illusion were due in no small part to Llexell, whose motto as supervisor of the Teaching Materials Preparation Center is, “If you can think of it, TMPC can make it happen.” Known for his quiet nature and innate resolve, Llexell, who became a U.S. citizen in 2015, has also helped ESOL by creating catchy presentations for Annual Heritage Night. “In a behind the scenes way,” said one colleague, “he moves mountains and really makes a difference.”

Elizabeth Hatt, Administrative Assistant, Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Special Services
“Betty is the true definition of a servant leader,” says a colleague who credits this willingness to put others first with keeping the office of Intervention and Prevention Services running. In addition to possessing an expert knowledge of federal grants, Betty has built at least four access databases, kept up with ever-changing brand designs and can coax a copier back into action or tell you why software is not operating as expected. At the same time she’s praised for extending beyond herself to make everyone feel like they matter, whether she’s helping parents who seek her assistance, knitting baby blankets for a colleague, or sharing a batch of her amazing “Betty brownies.”

Helen Motal, Administrative Assistant, Gatehouse Administration Center, Human Resources
Helen has been called the “Bionic Woman” of the Office of Benefit Services for her ability to keep the department both incredibly productive and working together. Whether she’s maintaining a cool head in her role as crisis manager, assisting with the payroll, or helping other administrative assistants devise best practices, Helen ensures the office runs smoothly. During the busy open enrollment season, she boosts morale by putting “lucky numbers” under everyone’s keyboards, and allowing daily winners to pick a prize. “She not only supports our work efforts,” said one coworker, “but also makes sure that we find time to connect on a personal level.”

Gordon Pullen, Operating Engineer, Gatehouse Administration Center, Facilities
When the HVAC unit shut down in part of the building on a recent night at Gatehouse, Gordon told a technician he’d handle it. What he didn’t say was that he’d do it immediately, even though it was nearly 10 p.m. and he had already gone home for the day. Such dedication is typical, say colleagues who praise Gordon as a consummate professional and troubleshooter. As one coworker noted, “No complaint is too small for Gordon to investigate and resolve.” Thanks in large part to his efforts, the headquarters system is now much more efficient and Gatehouse has saved 14 percent in energy costs over the last two years.

Sarada Sistla, Business Operations Technical Specialist, Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Chiefs Offices
A former banker from India known for her attention to detail, Sarada has been a natural to manage the multiple complex budgets in the Professional Growth and Career Development office. Colleagues describe her as a strategic thinker with a strong ability to build and maintain relationships; one who isn’t afraid to ask the difficult questions on why and how resources are spent. She’s also taken on challenging projects like the reorganization of office finances, while still accomplishing her daily responsibilities. “Her desire to learn combined with her self-discipline to execute a task,” said one colleague, “are unmatched.”
Outstanding Leader

Two Outstanding Leader Awards are given, one for a school-based leader and one for a nonschool-based leader, to those who have made a significant impact on students and FCPS through leadership in their field. Recipients demonstrate outstanding leadership and strengthen and improve the learning environment through their work. Any FCPS employee or community member may nominate an employee who is a US-21 or above and has held the position for at least one full year for the Outstanding Leader Award.

School-Based Finalists

Jackie Cordiner, Reading Teacher, Canterbury Woods ES, Region 5

Jackie is central to professional development at Canterbury Woods. As a reading specialist, she knows that student success depends on elevating the work of every teacher in the building. To do that, she’s led communitywide collaborative learning sessions and peer coaching, helping teachers to better work with children as they grow as readers. She relies on a deep knowledge of student data to identify those who need help and finds creative solutions to assist them. In the case of one struggling reader who didn’t qualify for accommodations, she recorded books for 3 years. “Jackie,” a coworker said, “is quite literally the building touchstone for current best practices in the field.”

Emily Kaltenmark, Assistant Principal, Key Center, Region 3

As assistant principal at Key Center, Emily handles the unique challenges of working with students who have severe disabilities by being fully involved. She helps develop IEP goals, observes workshops and administers medicine and tube feedings to students. She’s also there to assist parents whose kids are transitioning out of the school. Colleagues praise her empathy and eagerness to try new things, be it in her video public service announcements or during “Touch-base Tuesday” staff meetings which open with a pop song. “Emily is a constant presence in the building and the indispensable ring master of the show,” a coworker said. “I have never seen anyone effortlessly juggle so many balls.”

Jamie Lane, Assistant Principal, McLean HS, Region 2

Known as “the rock,” Jamie was revered at McLean for her ability to listen and take action to improve school culture. When youth survey results indicated students were experiencing higher than average levels of depression a few years back, she had school psychologists train 150 student mentors to respond when their classmates were struggling. Jamie also draws praise for her teacher mentoring programs and skill at building relationships with individual students. “Through her leadership,” said a colleague, “Jamie has created a school environment that will be successful for years to come.” Jamie is in a new role now, after being appointed principal of Oakton High School.

Sharon Powers, School Counselor, Vienna ES, Region 1

When Sharon became counselor at Vienna Elementary, she instituted an official “month of kindness” at the school. Two years on, kindness seems to have become a year-long theme there. Students credit Sharon for changing the way they treat each other. A “buddy bench” she set up for kids to sit on at recess when they’re looking for friendship has helped ease isolation. Meanwhile, Sharon’s lessons on cyberbullying prompted some 5th graders to end a group chat they felt might be hurting their classmates. Whether she’s helping an anxious kindergartner or working alongside the SCA, one student noted, “She always has a smile on her face to welcome others.”

Matthew Salerno, Assistant Principal, Halley ES, Region 4

Matt has taken the power of being positive to new heights as assistant principal at Halley. Last year, he launched the popular “Positivity Project” to educate students about the 21 character traits found in each individual. Through Halley’s Band of Brothers, he mentors fifth and sixth grade boys from diverse backgrounds and teaches them how to be good citizens. Meanwhile, teachers give him high marks for collaboration and his support of the positive behavioral approach to handling student misbehavior. “All his interactions always seem to veer toward possibilities instead of what cannot be done,” said one. “He never says no to an opportunity to help.”
School Recipients

Annandale Terrace Elementary School
Beech Tree Elementary School
Belle View Elementary School
Brookfield Elementary School
Bryant High School
Bush Hill Elementary School
Cameron Elementary School
Cedar Lane School
Centreville High School
Chantilly High School
Cherry Run Elementary School
Clermont Elementary School
Colin Powell Elementary School
Crossfield Elementary School
Daniels Run Elementary School
Davis Career Center
Dogwood Elementary School
Eagle View Elementary School
Edison High School
Fairfax High School
Fairfax Villa Elementary School
Fairview Elementary School
Flint Hill Elementary School
Floris Elementary School
Fort Belvoir Primary School
Franklin Middle School
Frost Middle School
Garfield Elementary School
Glasgow Middle School
Hayfield Secondary School
Herndon High School
Holli Meadows Elementary School
Holmes Middle School
Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences
Irving Middle School
Key Middle School
Kilmer Middle School
Kings Park Elementary School
Lake Anne Elementary School
Lake Braddock High School
Lake Braddock Middle School

Jane Thatcher, Social Worker
Kim Theberge, School Counselor
Randolph Scott, School Counselor
Jamie Stratford, Instructional Coach *
Tim Signorelli, School-Based Technology Specialist *
Maureen Manzo, School Counselor
Cindi Bryant, School Counselor
Lauren Keenen, Special Education Department Chair
Lisa VanLahr, School Psychologist *
Alice Robertson, School Counselor
Erin Hurley, School Counselor *
Jennifer A. Jacobs, Assistant Principal
Amy Patterson, Fifth Grade Teacher and Intern Leader
Holly Eelman, School-Based Technology Specialist
Lauren Hein, Assistant Principal
Yami Bosque, Career and Transition Teacher
Rachael Fox, School Counselor
Eva-Beth Levy, Assistant Principal
Carolyn Lamson, Instructional Coach
Tanya Villareal, Technology Support Specialist *
Lauren Ottenhoff, School Counselor
Ross Flint, School-Based Technology Specialist
Allison Hoak, Assistant Principal
Diane Ramia, School Counselor *
Teresa Chapman, School Counselor
Nathan Pourned, School-Based Technology Specialist
Bridget Healey, Reading Teacher
Ashley Younger, Assistant Principal
Steve D’Adamo, Assistant Principal
Meredith Ayala, High School Counselor
Megan Sherrill, Instructional Coach *
Debbie Storck, School Counselor
Christopher Kamar, 6th Grade Administrator *
Laura King, School-Based Technology Specialist
Brooke Samuelson, After School Specialist *
Erin Lynch, Instructional Coach
Angela Elsisi, Special Projects Lead
Michelle Crabill, School-Based Technology Specialist
Kim Seck, Instructional Coach
Jacquie Naughton, School Counselor
Josephine Rodriguez-Walhout, Assistant Principal

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Lane Elementary School  April Martin, Instructional Coach *
Langley High School  Fred Horton, School-Based Technology Specialist
Lanier Middle School  Michele Johnson, Assistant Principal
Lee High School  Stephanie Bilimoria, IB MYP Coordinator
Liberty Middle School  Lisa Basta, Technology Support Specialist
Little Run Elementary School  James Chianetta, ESOL Teacher
Longfellow Middle School  Riley Barrows, After School Specialist
Lorton Station Elementary School  Joseph Bosco, Assistant Principal
Louise Archer Elementary School  Keith Lesser, Technology Support Specialist
Luther Jackson Middle School  Johnelle Sweet, Instructional Coach
Lynbrook Elementary School  Karen Baxter, School-Based Technology Specialist
Madison High School  Ashley Anderson, School Counselor
Mantua Elementary School  Jane Dunfee, School-Based Technology Specialist
Marshall High School  Kevin Wallace, Systems of Support Advisor *
Mosby Woods Elementary School  Melissa Cox, School-Based Technology Specialist *
Mount Eagle Elementary School  Sharon E. Smith, Technology Support Specialist
Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School  Pamela Cherry, Assistant Principal
Newington Forest Elementary School  Laura Holsinger, School Counselor
Oak Hill Elementary School  Christine Ryder, School Counselor
Oakton High School  Justin Janis, Systems of Support Advisor
Olde Creek Elementary School  Kelly Durso, Assistant Principal
Poe Middle School  Stacy Clayton, Resource Teacher
Poplar Tree Elementary School  Leslie Leisey, School-Based Technology Specialist
Ravensworth Elementary School  Melissa Keller, School-Based Technology Specialist
Riverside Elementary School  Rosalind Ali, Math Coach *
Robinson Secondary School  Pam Hutson, Special Education Department Chair *
Rocky Run Middle School
Rose Hill Elementary School
Sangster Elementary School
Saratoga Elementary School
Silverbrook Elementary School
Sleepy Hollow Elementary School
South County Middle School
South Lakes High School
Springfield Estates Elementary School
Stone Middle School
Stuart High School
Sunrise Valley Elementary School
Terra Centre Elementary School
Twain Middle School
Wakefield Forest Elementary School
Waples Mill Elementary School
Waynewood Elementary School
West Potomac High School
West Springfield High School
Westfield High School
Westlawn Elementary School
White Oaks Elementary School
Woodburn Elementary School
Woodley Hills Elementary School

Melissa Witt, Special Education Department Chair
Rachal Edwards, Assistant Principal
Ramon Lee, School-Based Technology Specialist
Kristina Culkin, School-Based Technology Specialist
Megan Grasso, School Counselor and Kathy Lott, Assistant Principal
Shannon Mueck, Lead Special Education Teacher
Lindsey Covey, Instructional Coach *
Heather Bousman-Stanczak, Assistant Principal
Colleen Robson, Assistant Principal *
Cindy Arendt, School-Based Technology Specialist
Meaghan Tracy, School-Based Technology Specialist
Alicia Grande, Career Center Specialist
Carrie Brotemarkle, Reading Specialist
Teresa Lewis, Special Education Lead Teacher
Stephen Fitzgerald, Director of Student Services *
Brian Hubler, Technology Support Specialist
Kate Crane, School Counselor
Lisa Kelleher, School Counselor
Elizabeth Carter, Career Center Specialist
Shannon Matheny, Assistant Principal
Meredith Norris, Assistant Principal
Michelle Doyle, Assistant Principal
Brian Rever, School-Based Technology Specialist
Kathleen Gannon, School Counselor*
Caitlyn Fiocchi, Instructional Coach

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Nonschool-Based Finalists

**Michelle Andrews, Database Engineer, Wilton Woods Center, Information Technology**
Michelle has deployed her problem-solving skills to dramatically improve the efficiency of the student database system. Last year, she created a process to resolve enrollment discrepancies and also customized the summer student information system to make it easier to see snapshots of student data. As a “techie” with a background in special education, Michelle has also been instrumental in integrating IEP data into the system. “She has the uncanny ability to understand complex businesses,” said a coworker, “and an amazing ability to turn requirements into workable design.” Her efforts have helped FCPS cut costs and reduced workloads so teachers and students have more instructional time.

**John Gore, Field Construction Supervisor, Gatehouse Administration Center, Facilities**
John oversees more than 1,400 facility improvement projects throughout FCPS each year. Despite the stress of coordinating work at multiple sites with shifting demands, John is praised for his professional attitude. His construction expertise and strong relationships with outside vendors also enable him to meet challenges with flexibility. “John is a team player who exudes dedication and always offers new ideas and perspective to improve efficiency,” said a supervisor. He recently received kudos for moving an Early Childhood Center to Bull Run Elementary School, which involved new electricity, building walls, major repairs, and the relocation of specialty equipment on a tight schedule.

**Brooke Gustafson, Coordinator, Budget Compensation, Gatehouse Administration Center, Financial Services**
Brooke is leading the charge to create a better budget system. In addition to making sure upcoming projections are accurate, he’s also mapping out the current budget processes while working in collaboration with a consulting firm to convert the legacy system to a new platform. Colleagues praise his supportive management style and sense of humor. They also credit him with having an innate ability to deal with detailed information, while still seeing the big picture. This was on display in recent months when he served as acting director at several board meetings and work sessions. “His leadership is exemplary,” said one coworker. “He goes out of his way to provide guidance to all.”

**Travis Holder, Manager, Licensure, Gatehouse Administration Center, Human Resources**
When the Virginia state legislature mandated new CPR training for teachers, Travis moved quickly to set up a course which allowed 3,000 of his colleagues to meet their licensing requirements without a hitch. His superior work ethic has made him equally effective at dealing with rule changes, recruiting at job fairs, and streamlining the work process with his team. “No matter the topic, good or bad news, he greets everyone with a smile and positivity,” said one. Recently, Travis served on a state task force concerning the teacher shortage; his expertise was recognized when he was asked to co-present recommendations to Governor Terry McAuliffe and the Virginia Board of Education.”

**Noël Klimenko, Director, Pre-K-12 Curriculum and Instruction, Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Instructional Services**
Noël is committed to ensuring FCPS continues to move forward as one of the best school systems in the country. In the past three years, she’s brought about significant changes in grading and reporting at the secondary level, helped establish literacy as an instructional focus, and is in the process of creating different pathways for students to graduate from FCPS. “She keeps student and teacher needs and experiences front and center,” says a supervisor. Principals and teachers praise her for being collaborative and bringing a solid understanding of curriculum and student achievement to discussions. “She’s still a teacher at her core,” said one. “She’s a leader and colleague people want at the table.”
Cindy Rivera, Communications Specialist, Gatehouse Administration Center, Chiefs Offices

Cindy aims to support student success by communicating with as many parents as possible. Four years ago, she did this by creating FCPS en Español, a Spanish language Facebook page of news and parenting tips, which now has more than 5,000 members. More recently, she helped launch “News You Choose,” as a way for schools to share happenings with their communities. “She’s always the voice asking if information should be translated,” said one colleague. Thanks to Cindy, the FCPS newsletter is now published in 8 languages which has resulted in some schools reaching 50 percent more families. “She makes it look simple,” said one teacher.

Kate Salerno, Coordinator, Nontraditional School Programs, Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Special Services

As the leader of 30 nontraditional school programs in the Department of Special Services, Kate has distinguished herself as a pro with an unyielding belief in others. Under her guidance, FCPS alternative schools have expanded learning options for at-risk students. She’s also recruited higher caliber teachers and local universities and businesses to support students as they work towards the goal of attending college. Last year, the George Mason “Dream Catchers” program that she helped revive mentored a record 29 students. “Kate is the type of educator who will look for the student others might give up on and fight side by side with them to overcome,” said a colleague. “She has a huge heart.”
Outstanding Teacher

The Outstanding Teacher Award recognizes both an elementary and secondary teacher who demonstrate dedication, commitment, and the ability to propel students to high levels of success. The recipients meet the individual needs of students, foster talent, instill a desire to learn, and nurture cooperative relationships among colleagues and in the community. Any FCPS employee or community member may nominate teachers with at least three full years of experience for this prestigious award.

Elementary Finalists

Nadya Abu-Rish, Second Grade Teacher, Beech Tree ES, Region 2

Not too long ago, Nadya created a video of her students talking about the importance of other people. The kids were so inspired; they decided to make fleece scarves for the needy rather than their usual holiday craft. Thanks to Nadya’s initiative and passion for continuous learning, classes have connected with Syrian refugees in Greece, as well as hosted Channel 4 News anchor Erika Gonzalez and other local celebrities to learn about what they do. Colleagues and parents praise her for really getting to know her students and tailoring lessons to them, all while celebrating their culture and differences. “Ms. Abu-Rish does not wait for things to happen,” said a fellow teacher. “She makes them happen.”

Mary Bauer, Multiple Disabilities Teacher, Orange Hunt ES, Region 4

Mary is an expert on interventions of all kinds. In her four years as the face of special education at Orange Hunt, colleagues say she’s done more for student success than most teachers will accomplish in their career. Not only is she able meet students with emotional disabilities where they are and engage them on a higher level, she’s a collaborative co-teacher who can integrate a behavioral program into a general education class in a way that benefits all students. Parents, too, praise her for her innovative practices and ability to keep everyone in the loop. “When a student or staff member is in need,” says a colleague, “Mary is always there to offer support, brainstorm ideas, or listen.”

Jessica Chang, Second Grade Teacher, Oakton ES, Region 1

Jessica instills confidence in her students and encourages them to take risks. “It brings tears to my eyes,” said one mom, “to think of the dramatic change and growth that Ms. Chang inspired in my daughter.” Having left a career in business to become a teacher, Jessica is also an expert in classroom management. She’s known for her ability to deal with challenging behaviors in a non-judgmental way and is collaborative with her colleagues. And while her lessons are well-planned, she’s always willing to stop and expand in an area that sparks interest for the class. As another parent noted, “She makes the class feel like a family.”

Karen Nelson, Sixth Grade Teacher, Deer Park ES, Region 5

Karen creates experiences that stay with kids forever. On a typical day, one group of her students might be using the Washington Post to debate current events, while another team observes capillary action using celery stalks in colored water. Her popular “Passion Projects” even give students a chance to independently explore something they love. “Thanks to Mrs. Nelson,” said one, “I enjoyed learning for the first time in my life.” To help struggling students, Karen started the “Buck Block” program, where teachers share current challenges with each other and pool their experience. Meanwhile, her afterschool math boot camp, “Testing for Brainiacs,” has been credited with bringing up SOL scores.

Christopher Roeseler, Advanced Academics Resource Teacher, Bucknell ES, Region 3

Chris believes that when students are challenged, they will be engaged. To that end, he’s had fourth graders at Bucknell making snap circuits, sixth graders designing and coding video games, and fifth graders constructing instruments out of recycled materials. Taking a cue from students, he expanded the annual AAP debate to the entire sixth grade class and created an afterschool program in which 75% of students participate. A born collaborator both inside and outside of Bucknell, Chris believes coaching his colleagues gives him his “biggest bang for the buck.” Principal LaRonda Peterson agrees. “The ideas and resources he has brought to our teachers and families,” she says, “have made a lifelong impact.”
Secondary Finalists

Maria Cruz, ESOL Teacher, Oakton HS, Region 1

Maria is a committed and energetic teacher whose students know she is dedicated to helping them graduate. As an ESOL teacher, Maria can be the last hope for English learners who frequently have diverse needs. Colleagues praise her for getting to know each of her students to better support them and for sharing her methods with teachers across the county. Last summer, she visited Oakton Pantry weekly with some whose families were lacking food, and on teacher workdays, she often cooks breakfast for students as they squeeze in one last prep session. “Maria is Oakton’s Statue of Liberty,” said an administrator, “opening her door to those who need refuge.”

Brian Hannon, English Teacher, Hayfield SS, Region 3

Brian has a gift for teaching English in a way that appeals to everyone. “He can reach and stretch our strongest AP students,” said a colleague. “At the same time, he can reach and empower students who are accessing the general English curriculum for the first time as well as students with learning challenges.” A voracious reader and founder of the non-profit Poetry N.O.W., Brian uses books students can relate to but that also tie in with the classics. His lessons may be riddled with groan-worthy dad jokes, yet students praise him even as they work hard. In addition to coaching Boys Varsity Tennis and heading the afterschool poetry club, he runs the Annual Poetry Slam, one of Hayfield’s most popular events.

Michael Henrich, History & Social Studies Teacher, Lake Braddock SS, Region 4

Mike creates a classroom environment where history and the excitement of learning are everywhere. A former Peace Corps volunteer, he’s a master at reaching students, whether putting Napoleon Bonaparte on trial or running his March “Most Important Figure In History” bracket where kids take turns debating why their chosen person should be the winner. His secret: a drive to constantly improve as a teacher, paired with a genuine interest in those he’s teaching. At the beginning of each school year Mike calls the families of each of his 150 students to learn more about them. As one student said, “Mr. Henrich cares about us even more than he cares about history. And he really cares about history.”

Alissa Oginsky, Sixth Grade Teacher, Holmes MS, Region 2

Alissa has a passion for continuous learning and knack for bringing history to life. Her classes have examined West African artifacts, analyzed colonial portraits, and interacted with maps from the Civil War. A former Mount Vernon teacher of the year, she is also adept at providing options for students who want to explore further. “Alissa is able to build her students’ capacity to be independent,” said one, “and give them the autonomy adolescents crave.” Last year, she led them in creating a timeline of their own middle school, showing students that with their own primary sources they could create something that would be remembered forever.

Jennifer Swientoniowski, English Teacher, Fairfax HS, Region 5

Jen believes part of being a teacher is helping students find answers to all of their questions, even those that have nothing to do with English. Collaborative and positive, she’s steered countless students to success in her 13 years with FCPS, many of whom were facing hardships and emotional challenges. Currently, she teaches a course designed especially for students needing additional support meeting English requirements for graduation. Students praise her as much for teaching them that it’s okay to fail as for celebrating their successes. “No matter how many times someone told me to never give up,” said one student, “it was never highlighted more than by Mrs. Swient.”
School Recipients

Annandale Terrace Elementary School Katie Niehoff, Math Resource Teacher
Bailey’s Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences Sara Quesenbery, School-Based Technology Specialist
Bailey’s Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences Marilyn Rossen, ESOL Teacher
Belle View Elementary School Angela Klopson, Third Grade Teacher
Bonnie Brae Elementary School Carlin Ferraro, Second Grade Teacher
Braddock Elementary School Joyce Matthews, STEM Resource Teacher*
Bren Mar Park Elementary School Candace Jones, Second Grade Teacher
Brookfield Elementary School Lauren Hansen, Kindergarten Teacher
Bryant High School Rachel L. Albert, Art Teacher
Bull Run Elementary School Kathy Van Dyke, Fourth Grade Advanced Academics Program Teacher
Bush Hill Elementary School Patrick McCarthy, Sixth Grade Teacher
Camelot Elementary School Brian Maxwell, General Music Teacher*
Cameron Elementary School Grace Robb, Special Education Lead Teacher*
Canterbury Woods Elementary School Lauren Tredinnick, First Grade Teacher
Carson Middle School Leslie Hanna, General Science Teacher
Centre Ridge Elementary School Kerri Lawrence, Sixth Grade Teacher
Centreville Elementary School Yvonne Smit, Third Grade Teacher
Centreville High School Alexandra Morrison, Orchestra Director *
Chantilly High School Al Clemmons, Air Force JROTC Instructor
Cherry Run Elementary School Clare Foley, Learning Disabilities Teacher
Chesterbrook Elementary School Tiffany Hudler, First Grade Teacher
Clermont Elementary School Nancy Cox, Sixth Grade Teacher
Colin Powell Elementary School Kathleen Tourtellotte, Kindergarten Teacher
Cooper Middle School Meg Baber, Speech & Drama Teacher *
Crossfield Elementary School Lauren Siegel, Fourth Grade Teacher
Daniels Run Elementary School Zoya Lucas, ESOL Teacher
Davis Career Center Collette Rinker, Career and Transition Teacher
Dogwood Elementary School Mark Moseley, STEAM Resource Teacher*
Eagle View Elementary School Ashleigh Less, Learning Disabilities Teacher
Edison High School Amol Patel, Biology Teacher
Fairfax Villa Elementary School Melissa Eddy, Sixth Grade Teacher
Fairhill Elementary School Dana Riley, Fourth Grade Teacher
Fairview Elementary School Eva Kaplan, Third Grade Teacher
Flint Hill Elementary School Jeffrey Bechtle, Second Grade Teacher*
Floris Elementary School Audrey Hasset, ESOL Teacher
Forestville Elementary Despina Pappas, First Grade Teacher
Fort Belvoir Primary School Ashley Huntley, Third Grade Teacher
Fort Belvoir Upper School Dani Torres, Special Education Teacher
Fort Hunt Elementary School Molly Berg, Sixth Grade Teacher
Franconia Elementary School Tami Snyder, Sixth Grade Teacher
Franklin Middle School Cindy Monahan, Special Education Teacher *
Franklin Sherman Elementary School Krystal Long, Sixth Grade Teacher
Freedom Hill Elementary School  Julianne Roque, Fourth Grade Advanced Academics Program Teacher
Frost Middle School  Sarah Stair, Science Teacher *
Glasgow Middle School  Jason Wright, ESOL Teacher *
Groveton Elementary School  Nancy Davila, First Grade Spanish Immersion Teacher
Gunston Elementary School  Karen Booth, Fourth Grade Teacher
Halley Elementary School  Gwen Ward, Music Teacher *
Haycock Elementary School  Amanda Toppe, Gifted Education Center Teacher *
Hayfield Elementary School  Lisa DeSatnick, Second Grade Teacher *
Herndon Elementary School  Haley Kirk, Second Grade Teacher *
Herndon High School  Theresa Wright, English Teacher *
Hollin Meadows Elementary School  Cathy Bowman, Second Grade Teacher
Hunt Valley Elementary School  Sarah Slusher, Librarian
Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences  Christine Plagata-Neubauer, Sixth Grade Gifted Education Center Teacher
Irving Middle School  Katherine Hover, Special Education Teacher
Island Creek Elementary School  Eleni Mickles, First Grade Teacher
Keene Mill Elementary School  Suzanne Miller, Fourth Grade Teacher
Kent Gardens Elementary School  Deborah Clouser, First Grade Teacher
Key Center  Elizabeth Silva, Adapted Curriculum Teacher *
Key Middle School  Sarah Looney, Spanish Teacher
Kilmer Center  Diane Jones, Special Education Teacher
Kilmer Middle School  Kaitlin Walsleben, General Science Teacher
Kings Park Elementary School  Chandi Lind, Kindergarten Teacher
Lake Anne Elementary School  Ianthe Yeatras, Kindergarten Teacher
Lake Braddock Middle School  Anne Buellesbach, Math Teacher
Lane Elementary School  Amy Pata, Third Grade Teacher
Langley High School  Scott McCormick, Orchestra Director
Lanier Middle School  Kevin Deans, Math Teacher
Laurel Hill Elementary School  Marissa Williamson, Sixth Grade Teacher
Laurel Ridge Elementary School  Morgan Martin, Crisis Resource Teacher *
Lee High School  Julie Grady, English Teacher
Lees Corner Elementary School  Tina Pivarnik, STEAM Resource Teacher *
Liberty Middle School  Rebecca Price, English Teacher
Little Run Elementary School  Angela Kehler, Kindergarten Teacher
London Towne Elementary School  Erin Schillinger, Special Education Teacher
Longfellow Middle School  Connie Cooper, Science Teacher
Lorton Station Elementary School  Ella Flowers, Second Grade Teacher
Louise Archer Elementary School  Don Ishler, Special Education Teacher
Luther Jackson Middle School  Linda Ysewyn, Math Teacher *
Lynbrook Elementary School  Joyce Harris, First Grade Teacher
Madison High School  Andrea Jones, Special Education Teacher *
Mantua Elementary School  Corinne Elgert, Kindergarten Teacher
Marshall High School  Krissy Ronan, Librarian *
McLean High School  Cynthia Hawkins, AP History and Social Studies Teacher *
Mosby Woods Elementary School  Kim Lindsey, Special Education Teacher

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Mount Eagle Elementary School  Denise Meade, Gifted Education Teacher
Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School  Artesha Adamson, Fourth Grade Teacher *
Mountain View High School  Emilie Woolard, Math Teacher
Navy Elementary School  Dan Simonds, Sixth Grade Teacher
North Springfield Elementary School  Julie Steven, Fourth Grade Teacher
Oak Hill Elementary School  Gretchen G. Harris, Sixth Grade Teacher
Oak View Elementary School  Mollie Hutzel, Resource Teacher
Olde Creek Elementary School  Patricia Smalley, Librarian
Parklawn Elementary School  Jennifer Reynolds, Preschool Autism Teacher
Pine Spring Elementary School  Theresa Orlando, Third Grade Teacher
Poe Middle School  Rachel Romasco, Civics Teacher
Poplar Tree Elementary School  Kim Keleher, Third Grade Advanced Academics Program Teacher
Providence Elementary School  Lynn Gearhart, Fifth Grade Teacher
Quander Road School  Brooke LaPorta, Biology Teacher
Ravensworth Elementary School  Adelfa McDaniel, Multiple Disabilities Teacher
Robinson Secondary School  Audrey Hardwick, Learning Disabilities Teacher *
Rocky Run Middle School  Lisa Kaplan, English Teacher
Rolling Valley Elementary School  Sarah Wood, Third Grade Teacher
Rose Hill Elementary School  Danny Adams, First Grade Teacher
Sandburg Middle School  Cheryl Fulghum, Science Teacher *
Sangster Elementary School  Bethany Hovis, First Grade Teacher
Saratoga Elementary School  Heather Simpson, Fourth Grade Teacher *
Shrewwood Elementary School  Nikki Rodriguez, Fourth Grade Teacher *
Silverbrook Elementary School  Monika Derboghossian, Third Grade Teacher
Sleepy Hollow Elementary School  Christian Tribastone, Art Teacher
South County High School  Mary Catherine Moshos, Latin Language Teacher *
South County Middle School  Emily Howard, Librarian
South Lakes High School  Susan Brownsworth, Business and Information Technology Teacher & IB Career-Related Coordinator *
Spring Hill Elementary School  Ileana Perotti, ESOL Teacher
Springfield Estates Elementary School  Cissy Saulsgiver, Librarian
Stone Middle School  Lisa Muir, Librarian *
Stratford Landing Elementary School  Amber Gardner, Second Grade Teacher
Stuart High School  Donald Balsavich, Health & Physical Education Teacher
Sunrise Valley Elementary School  Stefanie Marik, Kindergarten Teacher
Terra Centre Elementary School  Rosemary Nevin, Kindergarten Teacher
Terraset Elementary School  Suzanne White, Third Grade Advanced Academics Program Teacher
Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology  Adam Foreman, Band Director *
Timber Lane Elementary School  Kristen Resutek, First Grade Teacher
Twain Middle School  Sheila Gotti, ESOL Teacher *
Union Mill Elementary School  Michelle LaBarbera, Advanced Academic Resource Teacher *
Vienna Elementary School  Maryellen DiSilvio, Special Education Teacher
Virginia Run Elementary School  Deena Moore, Fourth Grade Teacher
Wakefield Forest Elementary School  Angela Stotka, First Grade Teacher *
Waples Mill Elementary School
Waynewood Elementary School
West Potomac High School
West Springfield High School
Westfield High School
Westgate Elementary School
Westlawn Elementary School
Weyanoke Elementary School
White Oaks Elementary School
Willow Springs Elementary School
Wolftrap Elementary School
Woodburn Elementary School
Barry Feldman, Physical Education Teacher
Leigh Hutchison, Special Education Teacher
Dan Fitzgerald, French Teacher
Susan Lampazzi, Spanish Teacher *
Nikki Warren, English Teacher
Lisa Campbell, First Grade Teacher
Tiffany Jones, Advanced Academics Resource Teacher
Kayla Fleming, Fourth Grade Teacher
Greg Nussbaum, Sixth Grade Advanced Academics Program Teacher
Alecia Carroll, Third Grade Teacher *
Samira Ramezan Newman, Third Grade Teacher
Susan Vinisky, Librarian

*Pyramid-Level Recipient
Outstanding Principal

The Outstanding Principal Award recognizes an extraordinary principal who demonstrates superior leadership qualities and creates an exceptional educational environment. The recipient of this award is an innovative and highly effective administrator. They are a committed, knowledgeable educator whose vision inspires and guides staff, students, and the community to help lead their school to excellence. Any FCPS employee or community member may nominate principals with at least three full years of experience for this prestigious award.

Finalists

**Mahri Aste, Mosby Woods ES, Region 1**
Mahri's unwavering leadership and commitment inspires everyone at Mosby Woods to go the extra mile. Despite overcrowding, teachers say they are willing to instruct large classes in small classrooms because she supports them and encourages them to take risks. When students succeed, Mahri is there to celebrate, applauding at in-class presentations or cheering them on at the local Junior Achievement dinner. She provides similar support to the community, hiring a social worker to advocate for families, personally reaching out to those in need and sponsoring the school's Walk for the Homeless. “Her dedication is contagious,” says a teacher, “so people are quick to sign up, show up, and help out.”

**Bob D’Amato, Lees Corner ES, Region 5**
When one of his students lost her hair due to chemotherapy treatment, Bob shaved his head to help build empathy among her classmates. As principal, he seeks to set the tone for a school where the most coveted accomplishment is not a grade, but a “Golden Ticket” to reward students who “get caught” demonstrating positive behavior. Bob has been the driving force behind everything from initiating a STEAM program and supporting a store run by Special Education students, to creating a beautiful outdoor classroom and getting the community running with FunFit Fridays. “Bob,” says a colleague, “will do anything to help the families at Lees Corner feel connected and supported.”

**Dawn Hendrick, Woodlawn ES, Region 3**
Dawn is a master at building relationships and collaborating with staff. Teachers praise her for recognizing their strengths and involving them in decision making. She isn’t afraid to try new things; for example, a recent schoolwide “Cardboard Day,” where students engineered and designed games from recycled materials, was featured on the Red Apple 21 Channel. During her 7-year tenure, Woodlawn, which is largely Spanish-speaking and includes many students with emotional disabilities, has gone from the second lowest performing Title 1 school in FCPS to one of the top performing. “Her presence, visibility and genuine caring,” says a colleague “are clear when you walk into the school.”

**Keesha Jackson-Muir, Braddock ES, Region 2**
Keesha is a focused leader who knows everyone in the Braddock Elementary community by name and need. Her emphasis on life-long learning inspires teachers to push limits. Extra resources support experiences like coding starting in pre-K and a Global STEAM partnership with a school in Guatemala. An advocate for the school’s diversity (students come from 29 countries and speak 32 languages), Keesha expanded minority participation in the Advanced Academic Program. She also implemented 2-way immersion in K-5 to increase student literacy in their home language and improve English skills. “Under her guidance,” says a partner, “Braddock Elementary does not back down from a challenge.”

**Dave Jagels, Centreville HS, Region 4**
Dave is known for advocating innovation and using non-conventional strategies to deal with at-risk students. After learning that Centreville students had greater social and emotional needs, he trained teachers and introduced a mood meter to help staff and students become more aware of their emotions. Concerns about poor ESOL attendance led Dave to request a fifth assistant principal and to start making home visits to students, which resulted in reduced absences. As an expert in restorative justice, he frequently travels to represent FCPS abroad. Otherwise, he’s a constant presence in the halls of Centreville. “Dave,” says a teacher, “is a proactive force at all levels.”
School Recipients

Bull Run Elementary School
Cherry Run Elementary School
Clermont Elementary School
Daniels Run Elementary School
Gunston Elementary School
Hunt Valley Elementary School
Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences
Hutchison Elementary School
Island Creek Elementary School
Kent Gardens Elementary School
Lane Elementary School
Laurel Ridge Elementary School
Lee High School
Lynbrook Elementary School
Mantua Elementary School
McNair Elementary School
Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School
Pine Spring Elementary School
Ravensworth Elementary School
Sangster Elementary School
Union Mill Elementary School
West Springfield High School

Jason Pensler
Mark Bibbee
Anne Stokowski
Adam Erbrecht
Jovon Rogers
David Fee
Emily Cope
Ray Lonnett
Mike Macrina
Holly McGuigan
Eleanor Contreras
Tonya Wassenberg
Deirdre Lavery
James Nocco
Jan-Marie Fernandez
Melissa Goddin
Clint Mitchell
Armando Peri, Jr.
Roxanne Salata
Lisa Reddel
Kathleen Case
Michael Mukai
School Board

Jane Strauss  
Chair  
Dranesville District

Karen Corbett-Sanders  
Vice Chair  
Mount Vernon District

Tamara Derenak Kaufax  
Lee District

Sandy Evans  
Mason District

Pat Hynes  
Hunter Mill District

Karen Keys-Gamarra  
Member-at-Large

Ryan McElveen  
Member-at-Large

Megan McLaughlin  
Braddock District

Ilryong Moon  
Member-at-Large

Dalia Palchik  
Providence District

Elizabeth Schultz  
Springfield District

Thomas Wilson  
Sully District

Niharika Vattikonda  
Student Representative

Leadership Team

Scott Brabrand  
Division Superintendent

Steve Lockard  
Deputy Superintendent

John Foster  
Division Counsel

Francisco Durán  
Chief Academic and Equity Officer

Marty Smith  
Chief Operating Officer

Leigh Burden  
Assistant Superintendent, Financial Services

Chris Donohue  
Director of Operations

Mark Greenfelder  
Executive Director, School Support

Matt Guilfoyle  
Executive Director, Communication and Community Relations

Teresa Johnson  
Assistant Superintendent, Special Services

Esther Ko  
Auditor General

Maribeth Luftglass  
Assistant Superintendent, Information Technology

Jeffrey Platenberg  
Assistant Superintendent, Facilities & Transportation Services

Sloan Presidio  
Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services

R Chace Ramey  
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Kathleen Walts  
Executive Director, Professional Learning and Family Engagement

Douglas Tyson  
Assistant Superintendent, Region 1

Fabio Zuluaga  
Assistant Superintendent, Region 2

Terry Dade  
Assistant Superintendent, Region 3

Angela Atwater  
Assistant Superintendent, Region 4

Frances Ivey  
Assistant Superintendent, Region 5

Special Thanks

George Mason University  
Windows Catering Company

34 FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Awards Liaisons

School Awards Liaisons

Aldrin Elementary School  Lesley Aschenbach
Annandale High School  Bryan Molle
Annandale Terrace Elementary School  Essel Linton
Bailey’s Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences  Indiana Obando
Bailey’s Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences  Beth Armitage
Beech Tree Elementary School  Karim Daugherty, Maureen Lopez and Kim Theberge
Belle View Elementary School  Angela Klopson
Belvedere Elementary School  Cecilia Vanderhye
Bonnie Brae Elementary School  Carlin Ferraro
Braddock Elementary School  Mattie Fallen*
Bren Mar Park Elementary School  Alice Lim
Brookfield Elementary School  Monica Evans
Bucknell Elementary School  Tracey Stough
Bull Run Elementary School  Susan Wrona*
Burr School  Janene Pack
Bush Hill Elementary School  Angela Klopson
Camelot Elementary School  Cecilia Vanderhye
Cameron Elementary School  Courtney Korb
Canterbury Woods Elementary School  Colleen Haera
Cardinal Forest Elementary School  Linda Szabo
Carson Middle School  Elaine Clubb
Cedar Lane School  Nancy Gadd
Centre Ridge Elementary School  Chip Deliee
Centreville Elementary School  Kurt Soderstrom
Centreville High School  Karen Clifton
Chantilly High School  Zach Winfrey
Cherry Run Elementary School  Erin Hurley
Chesterbrook Elementary School  Lisa Gibson
Clermont Elementary School  Fran Peckham
Coates Elementary School  Kat Bach
Colin Powell Elementary School  Catherine England
Colonia Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Colvin Run Elementary School  Michael Rath
Cooper Middle School  Alexandre Kightley
Crestwood Elementary School  Kathy Theis
Crossfield Elementary School  Fran Peckham
Cub Run Elementary School  Kat Bach
Cunningham Park Elementary School  Catherine England
Daniels Run Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Davis Career Center  Michael Rath
Deer Park Elementary School  Alexandre Kightley
Dogwood Elementary School  Kathy Theis
Dranesville Elementary School  Dana Willis
Eagle View Elementary School  Jeanne Yu
Edison High School  Lauren Austin
Fairfax High School  Michael Rath
Fairfax Villa Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Fairhill Elementary School  Michael Rath
Fairview Elementary School  Alexandre Kightley
Falls Church High School  Kathy Theis
Flint Hill Elementary School  Dana Willis
Forestdale Elementary School  Jeanne Yu
Forestville Elementary School  Lauren Austin
Fort Belvoir Primary School  Michael Rath
Fort Belvoir Upper School  Jeanne Yu

Fort Hunt Elementary School  Susan Wrona*
Fox Mill Elementary School  Janene Pack
Franconia Elementary School  Jeanne Yu
Franklin Middle School  Michael Rath
Franklin Sherman Elementary School  Jeanne Yu
Freedom Hill Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Frost Middle School  Michael Rath
Garfield Elementary School  Patrik Kabelic
Glasgow Middle School  Mary Lou Carmack

Glen Forest Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Graham Road Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Great Falls Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Greenbriar East Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Greenbriar West Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Groveton Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Gunston Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Halley Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Haycock Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Hayfield Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack

Hayfield Secondary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Herndon Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Herndon High School  Mary Lou Carmack
Hollin Meadows Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Holmes Middle School  Mary Lou Carmack
Hunt Valley Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Hunters Woods Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Hutchison Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Hybla Valley Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Irving Middle School  Mary Lou Carmack

Island Creek Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Keene Mill Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Kent Gardens Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Key Center  Mary Lou Carmack
Key Middle School  Mary Lou Carmack
Kimler Center  Mary Lou Carmack
Kilmer Middle School  Mary Lou Carmack
Kings Park Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Lake Anne Elementary School  Mary Lou Carmack
Lake Braddock Secondary School  Mary Lou Carmack

Christina Perry and Maria Pezzuti
Eugena Smith
Nancy Melnick
Barbara Schmidt *
Amanda Arman
Beth Schires
Jorge Gonzalez
Laurie Arnold
Ellie Lovett
Jamie Edwards *
Shelby Fanning
Timothy Harris
LaKisha Denise and Jessica Ross
Tracy Hutchison
Kathryn Greene
Teresa Ebeler
Tami Brumett
Bryn Kandel
Elizabeth Williams
Rosemary Barry
Janet Dougherty
Sarah Beck and Libby Briggs *
Dianne Hardbower
Patty Hibner
Susan Duvall
Linda Clark
Kate DeSantis
Gina Amenta
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Jennifer Beyer and Ellen Lambert
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Eli Tinkelman
Karli Eddinger
Evan Lemmerman
Laura King *
Mary Ann Hall
Sharon Kotovsky
Cindy Conley and Victoria Nelson
Martin Gross
Ellen Colter
Pier McGrath
Nicole Bracken and Emily Kaltenmark
Terry Ann Restino
Jennifer Pasinetti-Fuller
Christopher Musgnug
Beth Beavers
Bethany Davis
Scott Darwin
Lane Elementary School
Langley High School
Lanier Middle School
Laurel Hill Elementary School

Laurel Ridge Elementary School
Lee High School
Lees Corner Elementary School
Liberty Middle School
Little Run Elementary School
London Towne Elementary School
Longfellow Middle School
Lorton Station Elementary School
Louise Archer Elementary School
Luther Jackson Middle School
Lynbrook Elementary School
Madison High School
Mantua Elementary School
Marshall High School
Marshall Road Elementary School
Mason Crest Elementary School
McLean High School

McNair Elementary School
Mosby Woods Elementary School
Mount Eagle Elementary School
Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School

Mountain View High School
Navy Elementary School
Newington Forest Elementary School
North Springfield Elementary School
Oak Hill Elementary School
Oak View Elementary School
Oakton Elementary School
Oakton High School
Olds Creek Elementary School
Orange Hunt Elementary School
Parklawn Elementary School
Pine Spring Elementary School
Poe Middle School
Poplar Tree Elementary School
Providence Elementary School

Pulley Career Center
Quander Road School
Ravensworth Elementary School

Riverside Elementary School
Robinson Secondary School
Rocky Run Middle School
Rolling Valley Elementary School
Rose Hill Elementary School
Sandburg Middle School
Sangster Elementary School
Saratoga Elementary School

Shrevewood Elementary School
Silverbrook Elementary School

Sleepy Hollow Elementary School
South County High School
South County Middle School
South Lakes High School
Spring Hill Elementary School
Springfield Estates Elementary School
Stenwood Elementary School
Stone Middle School
Stratford Landing Elementary School
Stuart High School
Sunrise Valley Elementary School
Terra Centre Elementary School
Terraset Elementary School
Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Timber Lane Elementary School
Twin Middle School
Union Mill Elementary School
Vienna Elementary School
Virginia Run Elementary School
Wakefield Forest Elementary School
Waples Mill Elementary School
Washington Mill Elementary School
Waynewood Elementary School
West Potomac High School
West Springfield Elementary School
West Springfield High School
Westbriar Elementary School
Westfield High School
Westgate Elementary School
Westlawn Elementary School
Weyanoke Elementary School
White Oaks Elementary School
Whitman Middle School
Willow Springs Elementary School
Wolftrap Elementary School
Woodburn Elementary School
Woodland Elementary School
Woodley Hills Elementary School
Woodson High School

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