## **2005 Classified Champions**

Classified employees, those who clean our schools, transport our children, provide clerical and technical support, maintain our buildings, feed our students and staff and provide education support in the classrooms make up approximately half of the district's staff. Each year, outstanding classified employees are recognized by the Board of Education for providing service above and beyond their regular duties. An excerpt from each employee's nomination form is next to each champion's picture.



John Avila, Plant Manager, Camellia Basic Elementary, 17 years. "He has spent many hours, days and weekends assisting volunteers planting a large variety of flora and fauna. The grounds have bloomed under his care."



LaRayvian Barnes McDonald, Instructional Aide, Special Education, Genevieve Didion/ John Morse K-8, 6 years. "She's assigned to Genevieve Didion, but continues to coach the John Morse girls basketball team. She also tutors them to make sure both boys and girls keep their grades up."



Frank Joseph Cabral, Bus Driver, Transportation/Prairie West, 7 years. ""We at Prairie West consider our classes lucky to have such a wonderful bus driver and member of our school family. Frank's actions make all the difference in daily classroom success."



Pamela Cajucom, Coordinator, Healthy Start, John Bidwell/Caroline Wenzel Healthy Start, 4 years. "Pamela consistently goes beyond the scope of her position to secure activities and grants that will benefit all the children, families and staff members of this school."

(photo not available) Kazi Chiao, School Office Manager 3, A. Warren McClaskey Adult, 19 years. "She always has time for others – even if it means she needs to put in additional time to complete her tasks. Kazi is a true asset not only to McClaskey, but also to the district."



Luis Flores, Plant Manager, Isador Cohen, 17 years. "Mr. Flores is bilingual and is always ready to assist in translation for registration, parent concerns, at ELAC meetings and for telephone calls. Staff can call on him for assistance or service."



Monica Garland, Office Manager, Will C. Wood Middle, 8 years. "It was Monica's idea to develop and start our school attendance committee. Her efforts have improved our schools attendance and set our school aside as a model for the Williams' case visit."



Lorraine Halsey, Instructional Aide, John D. Sloat Basic, 10 years. "Jan has decorated for many parent nights at school on her own time. She's made decorations at home and brought them in. She is always willing and able to help anyone, anywhere."



Dena Hayes, Food Service Assistant, Rosemont High, 13 years. "Dena has everything under control. She is involved in the community-school spirit. She would to out of her way to make sure my son felt welcome at lunch."



Carolyn Heim, Counseling Technician, Will C. Wood Middle, 16 years. "Carolyn has a sincere and genuine interest in the welfare of our students. Carolyn 'connects' with the students on a personal level and makes them feel important. All staff respect her."



Leigh Houghton, Instructional Aide, Bret Harte Elementary, 6 years. "Leigh has given her personal time to assist us with ensuring that our kindergarten students are ready for first grade. Our instructional aides have been the drumbeat behind the beautiful music playing on our campus every single day."



Karyn Hubbard, Office Clerk III, Alice Birney Elementary, 10 years. "Her warm smile and friendly assistance makes people feel welcome at Alice Birney. She is always willing to do extra projects for teachers and staff after the regular work completed."



Candice Ingle, Instructional Aide, Marian Anderson Children's Center, 7 years. "She is patient, kind and loving, and has developed a special relationship with each child. She is respectful to the individualization of each child. There needs to be more teachers like Candy."



Sally Kilchrist, RSP Teacher Associate, Sutter Middle School, 7 years. "Sally volunteers as a reading coach and does after school tutoring. She always remembers each student's birthday and recognizes all of their special events – like soccer championships."



Carol Lee, Office Manager, Alice Birney Elementary, 8 years. "Besides coordinating things for people in the office, she also helps run Back-to School night, Open House, the Birney Pancake Breakfast and special luncheons, as well as extra curricular activities."



Lisa Lentz, RSP Instructional Aide, Isador Cohen Elementary, 6 years. "Lisa knows when to push a student harder and when to step back and let the child flourish. We are learning sign language. She volunteers to come in during her break to teach us new signs and refine our practice."



Patti Lewkowitz, Office Technician III, Child Development, 15 years. "Patty is a great trouble shooter, always on the lookout for ways to do thing better, faster and with greater quality. She is also a spirit builder who contributes to a cooperative atmosphere of compassion, trust and just plain fun."



Dorrie McKellips, Instructional Assistant, David Lubin Elementary, 15 years. "Over the summer, Dorrie put in over 500 volunteer hours assembling 22,000 small books used for our reading program. She also prepares report cards for the entire school, entering over 650 names and saving time for the teachers."



Gary McLeod, Locksmith, Maintanance Shop/ Locksmith Department, 19 years. "Gary makes sure each work request is taken care of in a timely manner. As a locksmith, he constantly responds to emergency lockouts and to those who can't secure their doors. Security is first and foremost."



Marina Myhre, Bilingual Aide, Caleb Greenwood, 2 years. "Marina is a part-time bilingual aide who remains on campus as if she has a full-time position. You might find her working with students, doing yard duty or helping a staff member or parent bridge a communication gap."



Adriana O'Campo, Yard Supervisor/Substitute Clerk, John Bidwell Elementary, 6 years. "Adriana has an extraordinary sense of detail and takes all of the work she does to a high level. She communicates so well with our parents and gives them a listening ear. Her artistic talents are also well recognized."



Shirley Olson, Supervisor, Executive Services, Superintendent's Office, 26 years. "Despite her many responsibilities, she finds time to decorate the Superintendent's reception area for holidays and special events. She wants staff and visitors to the Superintendent's Office to feel welcome and comfortable."



Teri Panscik, Office Manager, Hubert Bancroft, 31 years. "When new students enroll at Bancroft, Terri walks them to class and introduces them. The extra time she spends talking to the students really helps them in what can sometimes be a frightening new experience"



Frank Robinson, Plant Manager, Cesar Chavez Intermediate, 7 years. "Frank loves his job. He rarely takes breaks and is always on the run. Frank leaves the whole campus spotless. He cleans the windows, buffs the floors, picks up liter, and always goes above and beyond"



Nai Saechao, Bilingual Aide/Community Liaison, Hiram Johnson High, 6 years. "Nai goes the extra mile to assure the immigrant parents have access to the educational system and provides any support related to the wellbeing of not only the student, but to their whole family."



Riena Sanchez, Clerk II, John Still K-8, 6 years. "Everyone on campus knows that if you need something done, if you need information, if you need help, or if you just need someone to hear you out, Riena will always make time for you."



Angie Spagner, Bus Driver, Transportation, 13 years. "Angie's willingness to help wheel students into the classroom and bring in items that students brought with them makes our job a little bit easier. She brings sunshine to our classroom."



Bert Stowers, Plant Manager, Will C. Wood Middle, 28 years. "He is always willing and ready to help staff, teachers and the community with issues in the office, classroom or community permits. There's never been a time that he's said, "I'm too busy," or he hasn't come to our aid."



Connie Tang, Bilingual Aide, William Land Elementary, 37 years. "Her proficiency with five languages makes her an invaluable asset to this school. She is part of anything that enhances the learning of children. If I asked her to do something important, she would do it no matter what time of day or night."

(no photo available) Evamarie Ve'evalu, Office Manager, John Bidwell Elementary, 13 years. "We are very fortunate to have an office manager who cares so passionately about the welfare of children and their families. She finds the time to help first grades count their money, give 'motherly advice,' and help them with their homework."



Christina Villegas, Personnel Office Assistant, Human Resources Services, 6 years. "It was not difficult to think of all the tasks that Christina does above and beyond the call of duty – for they are numerous. She is one who, 100% of the time, always assists when asked. Christina is always there!"

(no photo available) George Yanez, Plant Manager, Success Academy, 10 years. "Success Academy is a school with challenges. He does his job to the fullest. He deserves the 'tough man award.' He is a remarkable guy with a great attitude who makes every day a new day, and his school is always clean."