



USD 261

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is the purpose of the Star Polisher Award program?

The purpose of the Star Polisher Award program is to celebrate the accomplishments and dedication of individuals to the success of the students in Haysville Schools. It also provides the Haysville Board of Education an opportunity to recognize individual employees and volunteers for outstanding service to the district. The recognition should serve to boost staff, volunteer, and community support and morale through evidence of appreciation of performance and encourage community residents, business and community civic group involvement.

Who can nominate someone for a Star Polisher?

Anyone! Students, employees, parents or members of the community can all submit nominations.

Who selects the Star Polisher award winners?

Building Principals and Department Supervisors must first support the selection of an individual for the award. A district selection committee is responsible for selecting the Star Polisher award recipients for each semester.

What are the criteria upon which Star Polishers should be selected?

District employees who support the District Strategic Plan and Belief Statements and exemplify one or more of the Core Principles of Master Teachers can be nominated. Volunteers and school partners should participate in one or more activities that include: improvement of student achievement; implementing improvement plans; supporting the mission and strategic plan of the district; and service to students, staff, parents and the community.

How many people can be selected to receive the Star Polisher?

One certified and one classified employee is selected each semester.

What should schools/buildings do to recognize their Star Polishers?

You select the “best-of-the-best” to be Star Polishers, so you should do everything possible to recognize their efforts. This doesn’t mean spending a lot of money! Star Polishers most value the recognition they receive at their buildings and in the district. Put it in the building newsletter. Put it on your marquee. Decorate their door or put up a sign in their department. Be creative!

How are Star Polishers recognized at the district-level?

- Star Polishers are recognized by the Board of Education at the beginning of a meeting. Each award recipient receives a certificate, a “Star Polisher” lapel pin, and the personal congratulations of the Board and Superintendent. Star Polishers are listed on the district’s website, www.usd261.com. Star Polishers will be highlighted in District publications and the Haysville Sun-Times.



STAR POLISHER AWARD

PURPOSE AND PROCESS



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Process

The Star Polisher Recognition / Award will be given twice a year at a regularly scheduled Board of Education Meeting. This process is handled through the District's Personnel Office.

- Community Relations Department will publicize the deadline for nominations.
- Nominations are solicited from staff members, parents, students, and patrons.
- The District's Personnel Office will collect nominations.
- The Star Polisher selection committee will be made up a BOE member, Administrators, Teachers, and Classified staff members from the various departments.
- A selection committee will meet to review applications or applications may be copied and sent to the committee members for rating purposes.
- Committee will review applications and rank the applications on merit
- Invitation to BOE recognition at the beginning of a BOE meeting will be sent during Fall and Spring semesters.



The Star Polisher





STAR POLISHER AWARD

PURPOSE AND PROCESS



I have a great job in the universe of occupations.

What do I do? I'm a "star polisher."

It's a very important job. If you want to know how important,
Just go out at night and look at the stars twinkling and sparkling.

You see, I'm a teacher, an educator, a mentor.

The stars are the children in my class.

My job is to take them-in whatever shape they come-

And shine and buff them and then send them out
to take their places as bright twinkling beacons in the sky.

They come into my room in all shapes and sizes.

Sometimes they're bent, tarnished, dirty, crinkly, or broken.

Some stars are cuddly and soft.

Some are prickly and thorny.

As I buff and polish, I train and teach my little stars;

I tell them that the world cannot do without them.

I tell them they can be the brightest, shiniest stars in the sky
and the world will be a better place because of them.

Each night as I look at the sky,

I'm reminded of my very important job
and awesome responsibility.

Then I get my soft buffing cloth
and my bottle of polish

in preparation for tomorrow
...for my class of little stars.

