



# USD 261 CLASSIFIED & CERTIFIED STAFF RECOGNITION PROGRAM



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*“You embrace all children who come, lead them beyond their imagination, and teach them beyond their dreams.”*

*“You told them that the world could not do without them. You told them they could do anything they set their minds to. You told them they could be the brightest, shiniest stars in the sky and the world would be a better place because of them.” -Leah Becks*

## ***Mission Statement:***

**To Advance Learning For All Through The Relentless Pursuit of Excellence.**

## ***Vision Statement:***

**To Equip Learners with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills To Achieve Excellence In A Continually-Changing World.**

## **BELIEF STATEMENTS OF U.S.D. 261**



- WE BELIEVE FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION.
- WE BELIEVE HIGHER EXPECTATIONS YIELD HIGHER RESULTS.
- WE BELIEVE IN LIFE-LONG LEARNING.
- WE BELIEVE KIDS CAN BE SUCCESSFUL WITH 1 CARING ADULT.
- WE BELIEVE LEARNING IS ENHANCED IN A SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT.
- WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD EDUCATE OUR STUDENTS AS IF THEY WERE ONE OF OUR OWN.
- WE BELIEVE EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION AND LEADERSHIP ARE ESSENTIAL TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.



**During the school year, the Haysville Board of Education will presents the “Star Polisher” award to a classified and a certified staff member based on nominations received from the staff, students, parents and the community. The “Star Polisher” award program recognizes staff members who go that extra step in helping the school district and its students to succeed.**

**This award recognizes persons for (1) outstanding and /or lengthy service to students and the school district, or (2) outstanding service to the community, reflecting credit upon the school district. Staff members, students, parents, volunteers and school patrons are encouraged to make nominations.**

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## ***The Star Polisher***



**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.**





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1. Name of person being nominated for the award: \_\_\_\_\_

School or work site: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

This person is a (check one): Staff Member: Classified  Certified

2. Please state why you believe this individual should receive the “Star Polisher” award. Give specific examples of the person’s actions or contributions – such as amount of time, specific tasks, length of service, etc. Please mention if the nominee is involved at other schools or sites in the district.

**DISTRICT BELIEF STATEMENTS: WE BELIEVE**

- FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION.
- HIGHER EXPECTATIONS YIELD HIGHER RESULTS
- IN LIFE-LONG LEARNING.
- KIDS CAN BE SUCCESSFUL WITH 1 CARING ADULT.
- LEARNING IS ENHANCED IN A SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT.
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**For staff awards:** Please describe how the nominee supports one or more of the guiding principles and belief statements listed below. Activities may include any of the following areas: the improvement of student achievement; implementing the school improvement plan; promoting the mission of the district; and service to students, staff, parents and the community.

**Core Principles of Master Teachers:**

- Committed to students and their learning
- Know the subjects they teach and how to teach the subjects to students.
- Responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.
- Think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.
- Members of learning communities.

