



# USD 261

## CERTIFIED & CLASSIFIED RECOGNITION PROGRAM



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***What is the Star Polisher Award?*** The “Star Polisher” award program recognizes staff members, school volunteers, and school community partners who go that extra step in helping the school district and its students to succeed. During the school year, the Haysville Board of Education presents the “Star Polisher” award to a selected number of recipients based on nominations received from the staff and community. Each award recipient is nominated by a district staff member, patron, or site where their efforts are most profoundly felt. 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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*“You embrace all children who come, lead them beyond their imagination, and teach them beyond their dreams.”*

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                      Volunteer

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.



**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.

**District Belief Statements:**

- We believe student success comes first.
- We believe learning is enhanced in a safe and caring environment.
- We believe students need a rigorous, relevant, and world-class curriculum.
- We believe exploration, collaboration, and innovation are essential.



**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.



**For volunteer or community support awards:** Please describe one or more activities that support improvement of student achievement; implementing school improvement plans; promoting the mission of the district; support of the district strategic plan and belief statements, and service to students, staff, parents and the community.



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3. Please print or type. (Attach a separate sheet of paper if additional space is needed.)

4. Name of person making the nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Your status (check one):</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>Staff Member</b>
	<b>Parent of student</b>	<b>School Volunteer</b>
	<b>Nominee’s Supervisor</b>	<b>School Patron</b>

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of support from building principal or supervisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send PDF electronically to: Dr. Michael Clagg, Assistant Superintendent For Personnel, at [mclagg@usd261.com](mailto:mclagg@usd261.com) and a printed copy to Luetta Yoder, Personnel Office, District Administration Building at 1745 West Grand, Haysville, Kansas 67060.**