



February Staff Recognition

Energize People - Helmwood Heights Elementary Cody Watts

"It is with great appreciation that we recognize Cody Watts as our Employee of the Month! In just two years, he has made a profound impact as a PASS teacher, demonstrating patience, dedication, and a deep commitment to student success. Mr. Watts builds strong relationships, creates a supportive learning environment, and goes above and beyond to meet the needs of every student.

Thank you, Mr. Watts for your passion, hard work, and unwavering belief in your students. Your contributions make a difference every day!" – Aaron Howell



Lead with Tradition - Morningside Elementary

Wesley Hatfield

"Mrs. Wesley Hatfield has always exemplified what it means to be a true E-town Panther, both in her role as a dedicated educator and as an alumnus of Elizabethtown. Having walked the halls of E-town herself, Mrs. Hatfield carries with her a deep sense of pride and commitment to the Panther community, and she passionately instills this same Panther Pride in her students. Her classroom is a dynamic space where academic rigor meets engaging, student-centered instruction, designed to help every learner excel to their fullest potential. Mrs. Hatfield's commitment to academic excellence aligns with the longstanding tradition of success that EIS is known for, and she works tirelessly to uphold and build upon that legacy. In addition to her classroom efforts, she plays an instrumental role in guiding our staff as they learn to incorporate Kagan structures into their teaching practices." - Heather Goodman



Engage with our Community - TK Stone Middle

Amanda Shine/Tara Ellis

"Amanda Shine and Tara Ellis are an amazing addition to T.K. Stone as our Family Resource Facilitator and Assistant. They work with a network of community partners to meet the daily needs of our students. They go above and beyond every day to provide not only clothing, school supplies, and food, but also a listening ear and a caring smile. They are eager to connect our students with community resources to help with any situation at school and at the homes of our students. Our students are better prepared to learn and grow because of the way they engage with our community." - Hope Janes



Value Stewardship - Elizabethtown High

Suzanne Whitfield-Smith

"We are proud to honor Suzanne Whitfield-Smith with the Valued Stewardship Award for their outstanding dedication to fostering a sense of responsibility and care for Elizabethtown High School. Suzanne has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to the well-being of our school and our environment. Suzanne has exemplified what it means to take care of school facilities to ensure they are clean for our daily learners and staff members. Her efforts never go unnoticed and she takes pride and responsibility seriously. This award celebrates not just Suzanne's efforts, but also their unwavering passion for making Elizabethtown High School a better place for all. We are grateful for her exceptional stewardship." - Josh Henderson



Accelerate and Grow - District

Tammy Hayes

"It is with great enthusiasm that I nominate Tammy Hayes for staff recognition in the area of Accelerate and Grow for the month of February. Tammy's unwavering dedication and commitment to student success are evident in the countless ways she has enriched both her students' communication skills and the staff of EIS. Throughout her tenure, Mrs. Hayes has played a role in supporting every school in the district, providing invaluable mentorship to colleagues and collaborating with staff across multiple buildings. Her expertise, leadership, and willingness have had a major impact on both students and staff alike." - Cain Alvey



Teach for Learning - District

Marissa Wallace

"It is an honor to nominate Marissa Wallace for staff recognition in the area of Teach for Learning for the month of February. Mars consistently seeks opportunities to support student growth in social skills, personal accountability, and academics at Morningside Elementary. Mars possesses a strong commitment to fostering student success, and works tirelessly to build positive relationships, ensuring that every child feels valued and supported. She is a constant presence in the hallways, actively teaching strategies to promote positive behavior, celebrating student achievements, and encouraging students to reach their full potential. Mars finds a way to turn every moment into a meaningful learning opportunity. Each of these qualities makes Marissa Wallace highly deserving of this recognition." - Cain Alvey



Empower Excellence - Panther Academy

Maddie Bragg

"The description for "Empower Excellence" states, "Excellence is a choice. One will go above and beyond to inspire others." Panther Academy's staff recognition for Empower Excellence goes to Maddie Bragg. Maddie prefers to fly under the radar and does not seek attention for her efforts, but she is always willing to do whatever she can to help the students she works with become the best version of themselves simply because she cares. In a recent conversation, Maddie asked me for ideas to help the students she was working with in small groups, so she could help them achieve greater success. There have been times when Maddie has talked to me about one of the students she works with and expressed a desire to find ways to support them. Maddie empowers excellence by helping others in a quiet, gentle way." - Carla Kuhn

