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Pattonville School District seeks nominations for employee awards

The Pattonville School District is fortunate to have more than 900 dedicated employees sharing a variety of skills and knowledge to assure that the young people attending our schools receive the best education possible in the best environment. Each year the district provides an opportunity for students, staff members, parents and others to honor staff members who have made a difference through the "Teacher of the Year" and "Support Staff Employee of the Year" recognition programs. Anyone may submit a nomination. Nomination forms are available in all school offices and the community relations office at the Pattonville Learning Center located at 11097 St. Charles Rock Road in St. Ann. If you prefer to send your nomination electronically, a link for online forms is available on Pattonville's Web site, www.psdr3.org. Select "Recent News and Information." Then select "Special Recognition Programs" for a link to the online form.

The "Teacher of the Year" program is patterned after the state and national programs. The "Pattonville Teacher of the Year" becomes the district's candidate in the state competition. Any classroom teacher who intends to be with the district in that capacity for the following school year is eligible. Previous winners, counselors, librarians and persons in a supervisory capacity are not eligible. Nominees are judged by a committee of parents and staff members based on the nomination forms and written materials regarding personal and professional activities, and philosophy of teaching provided by the candidates. Finalists participate in oral interviews. An elementary, middle and high school "Teacher of the Year" will be honored by a surprise visit to his or her classroom in April. The "Teacher of the Year" will be named during the District Appreciation Night program on May 1.

The "Support Staff Employee of the Year" may be any non-supervisory support employee. This includes nurses, secretaries, clerks, food service workers, bus drivers, mechanics, custodians, print shop technicians, paraprofessionals, parent educators, and maintenance and warehouse personnel. Finalists are selected based on the nomination forms and written material submitted by the candidates. The selection committee consists of representatives from all support staff groups and parents. Nominees are judged based on commitment, human relations skills, loyalty, dedication and organizational/work skills related to the overall positive educational climate of Pattonville. Three finalists will be announced in April. The winner will be announced during District Appreciation Night on May 1.

Each staff member who is nominated is notified and receives the nomination forms after the process is completed in May. Just by nominating someone you let that person know that he or she made a difference for someone. The deadline for submitting nominations for both honors is Friday, February 3.