



Memorandum

To: Board of Education
CC: Dr. Debbie Jones, Superintendent
From: Leslee Wright, Director of Communications
Date: October 19, 2021
RE: Extra Mile Service Award

Holly Knott is our October Extra Mile Award recipient and serves as a Visual Arts Teacher at Bentonville High School. Holly was nominated by Kim Johnston, a mom at BHS, who wrote to us, expressing gratitude for Ms. Knott's teaching capabilities but also her kindness toward her daughter. A year ago, when Kim's daughter, Jayci, was in the ninth grade, she was enrolled in Ms. Knott's Art I class. She said her daughter came home, day after day, with some fun story about that particular class. But that's not why Kim nominated her. Fast forward to the beginning of this year. Jayci had gone to the cafeteria for lunch but because of COVID-19 social distancing protocols, there really wasn't space for her and her friends to sit together. So she went to Ms. Knott's class and asked if they could eat lunch in her classroom. She said, "Absolutely." Teachers get little time to themselves in the course of a school day. To welcome students to join you on your lunch period is truly kind. Jayci and her friends now have lunch with Ms. Knott every A day. Kim told us, "It makes this mama's heart happy to know that she has that kind of connection in that big high school." She added, "I want to thank Ms. Knott for not only teaching these kids but forming a relationship with them."

Holly has been with Bentonville Schools for 14 years. When asked about her, Principal Jack Loyd said, "She's 100% a team player."

Please join Bentonville Schools in appreciating Holly Knott.

About the Extra Mile Award

Any individual may nominate a Bentonville Schools employee by going to our [website](#). Nominations will be considered by administration and that employee's direct supervisor. Nomination rules and regulations will be posted on the website prior to the start of the nomination process.