

LUV Award 2009-2010

The Oregon PTA Local Unit Volunteer (LUV) Award was designed to recognize the importance of volunteers and the services they provide within their local PTA/PTSA units. The recipient of this distinguished award should have demonstrated exceptional service to your local association and be a member of your PTA. In considering an individual for recognition, please consider the following attributes.

- Has the individual demonstrated an ability to communicate and work with others?
- Does the individual recognize and uphold the Vision, Mission and Values of Oregon and National PTA?
- Has the individual been responsible for providing services, projects or ideas within your local unit?
- Is the individual respected and admired by the other members?
- Has the individual been willing to offer assistance and support to other PTA committees and members?
- Is the individual willing to accept and fulfill responsibilities?

Congratulations to the following recipients of the LUV award for 2009-2010 school year:

Access PTA..... Gail Shaloum

Access Academy PTA is proud to recognize Gail as our Volunteer of the Year. Gail is our Volunteer Coordinator, responsible for recruiting and organizing volunteers for PTA and school activities and also for coordinating with the Room Parents for each classroom. As such, she has a tremendous impact on essentially all activities at the school. From PTA social activities to classroom parties and work with visiting artists, we can always be confident that there will be enough parent volunteers on hand to make sure that every even is a success due to Gail's outstanding work and dedication. We are lucky to have her.

Capitol Hill Elementary PTA..... Krista Peterson

Krista has been an outstanding volunteer for Capitol Hill Elementary. She is one of our top members in volunteer hours. She has volunteered in classrooms, promoted school spirit and has led the committee preparing our school yearbook. She is always willing to lend a hand when needed and is a delight to work with.

Creston Elementary PTA..... Lisa Kensel

Lisa is committed to helping and improving Creston School. She is willing to take on major projects. Her organizational skills as well as excellent communication skills, both with student families and school personnel make the projects successful.

Da Vinci Arts Middle School PTA..... John Richardson

John has gone far above and beyond in his role as our PTSA Treasurer and member. His willingness and eagerness to provide support in every aspect of our PTSA functions has

made a tremendous difference in the success of our activities and efforts this year. He is resourceful, creative and solution-oriented person who has frequently been able to provide practical and innovative approaches for projects and functions. In addition, John created new and improved systems in every aspect of how funds are handled with the PTSA. These changes have improved all of our protocols. Whenever there is a challenge or a need on any PTSA effort or committee, he always jumps in to provide valuable ideas and direction, which is greatly appreciated by all. He gets along extremely well with PTA members and school faculty. He is highly respected, as both a person and a professional by all.

Franklin High School Quaker Club PTA..... Lauren Ettlin

The Franklin High school PTA is proud to elect Lauren as our LUV Award recipient. Lauren has been a very active member of our PTA for several years. She has dedicated numerous hours to creating a strong parent involvement at Franklin. She is also the one usually responsible for making sure most major PTA functions happen successfully. She is extremely organized and efficient and brings an amazing sense of community to our school.

Happy Valley Elementary PTA..... Patty Ottaway-Watts

At Happy Valley Elementary, we are fortunate to have many people who volunteer their time and effort to make our community so great! One person who truly exemplifies this is Patty. She has done so much for our school and PTA that I am not sure I can list it all! She has been a Board Member (Volunteer Coordinator); she is currently our PTA Systems Administrator; she has chaired many committees such as Book fair, Field Day, telephone Directory and Outdoor School fundraising; she has volunteered time in the classroom and has been a Head Room Parent; she has gone on field trips; she has a job; and many other activities that just can't be counted!

Patty has true servant's heart and is a joy to work with. She volunteers because she loves kids and is exceptional with them. Patty is a very deserving LUV Award winner, and we love her and will miss her next year.

Jackson Middle School PTA..... Susan Sanderson

A lead volunteer at Jackson Middle School, Susan Sanderson has managed projects of all sizes and complexity for the past five years including: 8th Grade Promotion, Girls' Night Out, Run for the Arts, Staff Meals for Conferences, Spirit ear sales, Track and Field, the School Supplies Drive and more. Reliable, consistent, solution oriented and inclusive, that's the way to describe Susan, whose across-the-board approach to supporting all students and teachers at our school models equity and encourages excellence. Through direct and concise email, news announcements and telephone calls, Susan communicates clearly and effectively, widely publicizing events throughout our community, sometimes managing two or three projects simultaneously. In and out of school, the PTA board, project chairs and others seek valuable history and guidance from her. Admired and respected, Susan not only has led projects, but also has served in support roles helping

across grade levels, has welcomed and mentored new volunteer parents in the school and most recently has initiated a succession plan to ensure continuity of important projects after her departure as her youngest child moves onto high school next year.

Markham Elementary..... Mark Bennett

Mark Bennett has brought commitment and passion to his participation in the Markham PTA. He got “PENNIES FOR PEACE” going at our school last year and from this effort students were able to raise 900.00 to donate to this program. He is continuing to run PENNIES FOR PEACE this year. He has made presentations to Markham Students to explain the importance of giving to others and the privilege of attending school. In addition, he is currently helping to create a community garden on the school grounds. With the help of his wife, they are leading the way to finding grant money, involving parents and staff to building a community garden. Mark attends PTA meetings regularly and brings a great sense of humor and inspiration to our meetings. We so appreciate all the energy that Mark has given to the Markham PTA this year and in the past.

Mary Rieke Elementary..... Dick Hausken

Rieke PTA is proud to select Dick Hausken to receive the LUV Award. Dick has been the PTA Treasurer for the last two years. Dick was the only PTA board member who wasn't new for the 2009/2010 school year. He has been a steady presence on the board and an invaluable source of information for new board members. Dick has a very good grasp of the PTA's financials and the board is confident in how he manages his role as Treasurer, which allows other board members to focus on other projects. Dick has an ability to work and communicate well with not only the board but the PYA membership and school faculty and principal. Dick never misses a meeting and is or than willing to take responsibility for taking on new projects and exploring new ideas.

Marysville Elementary PTA..... Erin Sherry

Despite her job and our school's move away from her neighborhood, Erin Sherry works tirelessly on behalf of Marysville. She fits in volunteer hours in around her two jobs, parenting, husband and home. Currently, she organizes materials in her son's 4th grade classroom, creates displays of student work, chaperones field trips, and has been an active PTA member for the ten years I've known her. For many of the year's she has been involved in PTA she has been on Marysville PTA's board, serving in a variety of capacities. Please recognize her service to students, teachers, Marysville and PTA.

Memorial PTA..... Michelle Brantner

Michelle has just recently re-joined the Memorial PTA. She is the mother of three students at Memorial Elementary, a kindergartner, a 2nd grader and a 4th grader. Being an engineer, Michelle has a strong passion for science and has expressed interest in helping to further the science curriculum at Memorial since her oldest son started at the school.

Last year Michelle partnered with her son's 3rd grade teacher in offering a "Wednesday Science Lunch". Here the students were offered to stay in the classroom for lunch to participate in a different science experiment each week.

Michelle's most recent contribution to the school was her involvement with, our just completed, Science Day, on February 9th, which was hosted in connection with the PTA's Take Your Family to School Week. Michelle planned and led age appropriate science experiments in four 2nd grade, where she literally "blew the top off" the topic pressure. She also made "gack" with about 80 kindergartners, that day.

In addition Michelle has lead a couple of newly created PTA after school clubs; a 5 week knitting club in the fall, and a 5 week science club in the current winter session. Memorial is very fortunate to have a person like Michelle with so much knowledge to share, and the ability to do it in a way that the kids understand. It is opening the minds of every student she meets, to the world of science, and it is exciting to know that she will be around at Memorial for several more years, to touch the minds of many more students, and just maybe, inspire them to choose a career they might otherwise never have imagined.

Portland Council PTA..... Shawn Bartlemay

Portland Council PTA selects Shawn as the recipient of this distinguished award for her exceptional service to our PTA Clothing Center and PTA. She has been an active PTA member for many years, and a team player. She makes herself available to help wherever she is needed at the Clothing Center. She volunteers at the Clothing Center on the 3rd Thursday of each month assisting students and has been a supervisor for over 15 years. Shawn has been indispensable at the Clothing Center. She uses her woodworking class fees to purchase new socks and underwear for the kids in need. She has also brought the Clothing Center story to many of her friends and they in then reward the Clothing Center with purchases for kids in need from their generosity and good fortune in Lincoln City.

Shawn is a respected and admired person for her continued commitment, caring attitude and working on projects to make the Clothing Center a positive experience for every student and their family. She is always willing to assist and offer support. She is a past local unit president, and continues to support PPS students in need after her own two children have graduated from PPS.

Wilson High PTA..... Kathy Phillips

Kathy Phillips has been co-chair of the hospitality committee for four years. She runs the Grad Party book sale and rummage sale fundraisers, all while working fulltime and raising children. She often takes time off work to devote time to school volunteer activities. She does all this and more with a minimum of fanfare. She is soft spoken, but gets the job done. Year after year she volunteers for things, never seeking the spotlight for herself and often gives credit to others. She is a tremendous asset to the Wilson High PTA and is very deserving of this award and recognition.

Woodstock Elementary..... Michelle Culley

Michelle has been our fundraising chair and our scrip coordinator for over a year. Although she works and takes care of her family, we had a need for someone and Michelle was there to fill a vacancy from a midyear resignation last school year.

All this school year she has been at school every Monday morning and afternoon and then again on Fridays. Due to her commitment, scrip has become a viable fundraising format for our schools PTA. Michelle is not only coordinates fundraising and scrip but volunteers additional time whenever volunteers are called for. She is a wonderful asset and person and Woodstock PTA thanks her from our hearts!

Child Advocacy of the Year Award 2009-2010

The purpose of the Advocate for Children award is to recognize PTA members around the state that demonstrate a commitment to the mission and objectives of PTA by strengthening and encouraging advocacy for all children. Nominations can be submitted by anyone, other than themselves. This allows your peers and fellow volunteers to recognize and commend you for your hard work and effort to support and fight for the rights of all children. Selection of the winner is based on the nominees' actions that show commitment to the mission and objectives of PTA and active efforts showing dedication to advocating for children and youth, whether it is in the home, the school, their community, or at the state or national level. Nominees will be judged solely on their own efforts, and will not be held in comparison to other nominees. It is my pleasure and great honor to announce Portland Council President **Beryl Morrison** as the Oregon PTA Advocate for Children Award for 2010.

From Otto Shell: I have known Beryl for many years. She is a tireless advocate for all the children in Oregon. She has volunteered countless hours with her local PTAs (Alameda and Beaumont Schools in NE Portland) and with the Portland Council PTA.

I have been impressed with Beryl's passion for children. From working as a volunteer at the Council's Clothing Center to representing PTA and parents on the board of the Portland Schools Foundation she is a constant voice for children. Beryl has given her time as a PTA volunteer, a mentor and reading friend at her daughter's middle school. She is a regular at many local unit PTA meetings bringing the support of Portland council.

Beryl has built relationships with parents, teachers and principals in schools all over Portland. She has brought PTA volunteers together for coffee groups where we share our best ideas and try to solve problems in our PTAs. When you join Beryl at any school meeting you will see her being received with smiles and big hugs from parents, staff and even elected officials who value her presence and support.

Most recently with the support of many Portland PTA volunteers Beryl insisted that Portland Public Schools meet every high school community to discuss what the proposed high school redesign plans mean for each high school community. Those meetings drew thousands of people and the information shared at those meetings reshaped the focus of the process on equity and opportunity for all PPS high school students.

Beryl has been a positive advocate for children when it comes to campaigns such as the local option which was passed in Portland a few years ago. Over and over Beryl went to community meetings from PTAs to business and civic groups. She helped arrange phone banks and canvassing. She and her daughter Amelia were regulars at the campaign office. Amelia was featured in the Oregonian painting homemade campaign signs.

Beryl has served as a parent and PTA volunteer on local school district committees. She has been a persistent voice for including PTA at PPS meetings and boards. She is a frequent attendee at school board meetings. When the Marysville School burned, Beryl joined other volunteers to prepare an alternative school building for the students, helping fill shelves with books and coordinating donations.

With the support of local PTA members Beryl has succeeded in keeping an awareness of PTA's critical support for schools with our volunteer hours and financial support at each local unit. Beryl and the Council have succeeded in creating new PTAs in schools that have not had a PTA for a while. She has served as Principal for the Day at several schools in the annual Foundation program that brings citizen leaders to schools.

Beryl has joined us in Salem and even in Washington DC to advocate for legislative support for children in Oregon. Her experience from meeting PTA volunteers and their children makes her a powerful advocate and communicator. Congresswoman Hooley even interrupted her meeting with energy lobbyists when Beryl came to her office to update Ms. Hooley on PTA issues.

Beryl's positive attitude and desire to make sure every child has a chance to succeed embodies the core of what PTA believes. She is a reminder to local elected officials and school staff that we should never lose track of the needs of children.

Beryl's volunteer work has inspired me and many others to keep looking out for all of our children. It is my pleasure to nominate Beryl Morrison for the Oregon PTA Advocate for Children Award.

Healthy Lifestyles Award Winner 2009-2010

Susanne Howard from Memorial Elementary PTA in McMinnville, Oregon. They received a \$1,000 grant from National PTA. They created a “Can” Film Festival for their event. They brought in food cans, ate nutritious snacks from the High School students, had fun with the Food Magician, hula hoops and yoga.

Take Your Family to School Week Award Winner 2009-2010

April Jorgenson from Buckingham Elementary PTA in Bend, Oregon. They received a \$1,897 grant from National PTA. They created daily events for parents to join their children at school. Events were staggered throughout the week and were offered during the school day and in the evening. Many parents came in to read to their own children and other students as well. They were amazed at their number of dads who participated in their events.

Look into other National PTA programs like M.O.R.E., Watch D.O.G.S, iMom and All Pro Dad. I encourage you to have programs next year that support Family Engagement, Dads and Cultural Diversity. Start planning for next year.