Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Golden Apple Award | April 14, 2014





Barbara Ralston, first grade teacher at Mountain View Elementary has served the students of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District for more than 25 years. While KPBSD records will show this date range, the fact that Ms. Ralston taught many of the parents of her current students also is evidence of her longevity.

Ms. Ralston's lessons are geared toward the needs of all of her students. She is truly a remarkable teacher and willingly shares her knowledge with others. She has taken many a new teacher under her wing and is tireless in providing a patient ear when they need it. She offers ideas for student engagement when another teacher's tool bag is sparse.

Ms. Ralston is an institution in and of herself. In addition to her incredible service to children and the teaching profession, she volunteers for many other things at Mountain View Elementary, Ms. Ralston serves as the building tech rep and is tireless in tracking down technology problems and ensuring that equipment is up and running in the shortest amount of time possible. In the unusual event that she cannot make a repair herself she is quick to submit requests to the expert KPBSD technology team.

Mountain View Elementary has one school wide fund raiser, the annual fall carnival, Ms. Ralston coordinates this huge event. She has developed the processes necessary to ensure that everything gets done efficiently. She also has a unique skill for inviting her colleagues to volunteer and assume many of the responsibilities. It just never feels like work with Barbara.

Ms. Ralston serves as the Teacher Leader for the first grade team on the Mountain View Leadership Team. She takes this role seriously and keeps her grade level team informed of initiatives at Mountain View Elementary. The first grade team is serious about their collaboration efforts. Under Ms. Ralston's leadership, this team of new-to-the-profession teachers learns to calibrate scoring for math and English, Language Arts assessments. They work as a team to analyze data and plan for intervention and remediation.

Finally, Ms. Ralston shares her leadership and commitment to learning by representing her colleagues on the Mountain View site council. She never misses a meeting, is always prepared, and steps up to serve as the chairperson when needed.

Mountain View Elementary is grateful for the leadership and professionalism Ms. Ralston has bestowed during her many years of service to the children of our community.

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education is proud to recognize Barbara Ralston for her dedication to the students of the school district, past, present, and future.