

CVSIPs <http://cumberlandvsips.wordpress.com/> is proud to announce

Cluster and Special Interest Teacher Awards for 2010-2011

This is the second year that CVSIPs has requested nominations from parents of students in cluster classrooms and Special Interest classrooms to recognize the outstanding teachers we have in our district. Please see these nominations on our website along with last year's as well as a copy of the certificate we present to each teacher. We hope that you will take time to nominate a teacher next year.

Brian Healey – Good Hope – Social Studies

Brian Healey, the advanced Social Studies teacher at Good Hope has consistently engaged the gifted students with whom he comes in contact. By engaging students with innovative methods like the interactive notebook and mock trials, he has allowed their individual strengths to shine. In December, Mr. Healey used Skype to bring our child into the mock trial while our family was traveling. Mr. Healey showed the way to truly use cyber learning. Our son has been highly engaged by Mr. Healey and remains so today.

For his willingness to fully engage gifted students and use technology to keep them engaged, Mr. Healey should be recognized by CVSIPs.

Susan Kostelac – Sporting Hill Elementary – 5th grade

I would like to nominate Mrs. Kostelac, 5th grade at Sporting Hill Elementary. Mrs. Kostelac takes the time to get to know each child in her large class and to make sure that their needs are being met. She has been an advocate in the school and in the district for gifted children to receive the academic challenges that they need. Her patience, enthusiasm and skill in dealing with her students is amazing and her students love her for it.

Cindy Kennedy – Shaull Elementary – 4th grade

Mrs. Kennedy has 30 children in the class and as we know, that can be quite a challenging number of young students to manage. However, she works hard to ensure that each child's needs are met and that each child is achieving at his or her highest level.

Mrs. Kennedy is a font of positive energy and instills in the kids a love for learning. She always encourages our son and helps us as parents see the best attributes of our child and areas in which he needs some assistance. In the truest sense, our work this year has been a partnership in which we both nurture his academic and social development.

Mrs. Kennedy puts everything into her classroom presentations and then gives even more with after-school activities like Challenge 24 Club. Our son has thrived under Mrs. Kennedy's tutelage. She deserves to be recognized for her commitment to excellence and her wonderful caring regard for our children.

Brian Barrick - Sporting Hill Elementary – 4th - grade

We would like to nominate Brian Barrick, Sporting Hill Elementary, grade 4, as the Best cluster class teacher. My child is very happy and engaged with the challenges in academics. This has been the first year he has never complained about school or schoolwork. Additionally, my son loves going to school and never wants to miss a day. He treats each kid with special interest and highlights their strengths and improves on their weaknesses to make them into excellent students. He is also well liked by the kids as he engages them with a lot of humor. He has always encouraged my son to do his best and strive for more. He also holds the distinction of having led his 4th grade class to lead the entire United States in the First In Math Program. He is an excellent teacher, who knows how to get the best from his students. He deserves the recognition for all of his work.

Cindy Kennedy – Shaull Elementary School – 4th grade

We would like to nominate Mrs. Cindy Kennedy, 4th grade Cluster Classroom Teacher from Shaull Elementary School. Mrs. Kennedy put in a lot of effort throughout the school year to ensure that our daughter is constantly challenged. Mrs. Kennedy understands the needs of each of her students and provides learning opportunities accordingly. Knowing that our daughter participates in Spelling Bees outside school, she customized our daughter's assignments to improve her knowledge of words to help her perform better in future Bee competitions. Mrs. Kennedy is very organized and always keeps parents informed about classroom activities with her regular emails. She makes learning fun through activities like the 24 club. She always takes initiative even when nobody else is willing to do so, and also follows through to ensure that the task is completed. The welfare of the students is of utmost importance to her, and she does not hesitate to take BOLD steps to meet the students' needs. This has been a GREAT year for our daughter and we are very thankful for teachers like Mrs. Kennedy!

Brian Barrick – Sporting Hill Elementary – 4th grade

Mr. Barrick teaches our son at Sporting Hill Elementary's fourth grade. Mr. Barrick has inspired our son his classmates throughout the school year. He has instilled a sense of healthy competition and teamwork as the students in his class compete for stickers in First in Math. His fourth grade class led the nation in First in Math points! And best of all, the kids absolutely loved it! Mr. Barrick has made learning fun for the kids.

I have enjoyed hearing my son talk about the books that Mr. Barrick has chosen for the children to read. Our son was deeply involved in the book, *Where the Red Fern Grows*. I watched as he eagerly wrote summaries and analyzed parts of the book for assignments. I would also like to thank Mr. Barrick for going above and beyond the call of duty for the kids and accepting the Math 24 coaching position. Without Mr. Barrick, my son would not have had this wonderful opportunity. I chaperoned a practice session and observed Mr. Barrick stress manners, fun competition, teamwork and respect to the students who were participating. We feel very fortunate to have our son involved in the cluster program, and even more fortunate to have Mr. Barrick as his teacher!

Brenda Reed – Eagle View – Special Interest

I would like to nominate Brenda Reed for really giving of her time to encourage the students to reach beyond the school curriculum to learn more about themselves and their world.
