



Bellflower Unified School District

Media Release

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18-Year Bellflower Unified Secretary Chosen as Classified Employee of the Year

BELLFLOWER – Eileen Jones, who serves as a secretary to the Director, Elementary Education at Bellflower Unified, has been named the 2016-17 Classified Employee of the Year for her expert hand at connecting with community members, juggling a multitude of tasks and assisting new employees.

Jones is at the ground level when it comes to getting things done, according to Elementary Education Director Dr. Alysia Odipo and Secondary Education Director Colleen McKinley, who nominated Jones.

She coordinates buses for elementary music, activities for the GATE program, materials for elementary training programs and handles elementary parent concerns. She is a go-to person for classified staff across the district, helping them navigate such complex tasks as budgets and work orders.

“Eileen is not only a tremendous member of our team, she is also a delight to work with day in and day out,” Superintendent Dr. Brian Jacobs said. “She brings vast knowledge, a sunny demeanor and a high level of proficiency to ensure the work of the district is done efficiently and effectively.”

Jones has worked for Bellflower Unified since 1997, starting as an instructional aide. She has worked as a school secretary, served as PTA Council president six times and as a member of the Citizens Task Force for 18 years – currently as its chairperson. She is also active on the Superintendent’s District Advisory Group.

Jones is also known for dressing up for holidays and special events in costumes as simple as bunny ears and as detailed as a picnic table. She brings homemade cakes on birthdays and treats for holidays, and coordinates a holiday cookie exchange.

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Bellflower Unified School District provides a pathway for all students to attain the expertise and develop skills of academic excellence that will empower them to become lifelong active learners, demonstrate respect for themselves and others in a dynamic, diverse and global society, become responsible, informed, productive, independent and contributing citizens, and perform successfully in their chosen field and in society.



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“She is a gem,” Odipo said. “She expertly juggles many tasks, volunteers to lead events like Relay for Life, helps her colleagues at the drop of a hat and is always there when we need her, no matter what. And her sense of humor never fails to raise everyone’s spirits.”

McKinley echoed the sentiment.

“Mrs. Jones is one of the most experienced and dedicated people I have ever worked with. She truly has a heart for students and works tirelessly to serve the Bellflower Unified School District community,” McKinley said. “I am lucky to have her additional support every day.”

CAPTION: Bellflower Unified secretary Eileen Jones – recently named 2016-17 Classified Employee of the Year – frequently dons holiday-themed costumes to brighten the workday for her colleagues.

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