

# January - February 2024 Nominations



**Kristin Lieser** – Technology Support Specialist II

“Kristin has been a great help in trying to solve a printer problem I am encountering. She always remains friendly and works hard to find a solution. She is a great asset to the coop and I am grateful she is part of SWWC! Thanks Kristin!”

**Mike Soupir** – Technology Support Specialist II

“Mike has been working hard to find a solution to a printer problem I am encountering. He has spent many hours working to find a solution and came to the office one day when the weather was less than desirable to assist. I appreciate the work he has done in regard to this situation. Thanks Mike!!”

**Rebecca Konz** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“I have had the pleasure of working with Becky for seven years and watched her grow and blossom in each and every year. Becky comes to work every day with the mindset of setting her students up for success and growth. She has a natural way of setting clear and consistent boundaries and expectations that her students thrive from and she builds a natural rapport and positive relationship with every student in the building. Becky is willing to go above and beyond not just for her classroom and classroom teacher, but the building as a whole, and will take on any task or project asked of her and give it her all. She is a role model in how she implements positive reinforcement for our students and it is a joy and an honor to work alongside her.”

**Candace Otto** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Candace has been amazing in the Elementary Room. She has stepped up and has taken on a lot more responsibilities. She has sought out opportunities to learn more about ways to collect and document data, deal with behaviors, and help other staff. She has great relationships with both students and staff. We are so lucky to have her at Willmar ELC”

**Anthony Frank** – Speech Language Pathologist

“Anthony has worked tirelessly in helping OT services transition from in-person to virtual in Lester Prairie pending the district's current OT's maternity leave. He has went above and beyond without complaints to make everything a smooth transition, and has taken it upon himself to print off activities, get students from their classrooms and talk to teachers if a certain time doesn't work. This would not have been possible without him- he is such an asset to the coop and to his district!”

**Candace Otto** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Candace is an amazing Para. She goes above and beyond for her students and truly cares about their well being. You can tell that she takes her job seriously and wants to make sure she does a good job. She has compassion and understanding for all situations. Thank you for all that you do here at Willmar ELC!”

**Maddie Davis** – Special Educational Paraprofessional

“Maddie never hesitates to respond to calls from all parts of the school. She tackles difficult situations with a positive attitude. She has built relationships with students in every classroom. She's always willing to help coworkers in any way that she can! Willmar ELC is blessed to have her!”

**Tiffany Jensen** – Special Education Teacher

“Tiffany goes above and beyond to make staff in her classroom feel heard and appreciated. She is patient and kind with her students and makes sure that everyday is a fun and exciting day of learning!”

**Kim Garcia** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Kim joined the elementary classroom this year and has been a huge help! She seeks out opportunities to learn and contribute to daily tasks in the classroom. She has quickly built relationships with students and staff. Her fun personality brings positivity to everyone around her. Thanks for your hard work Kim!”

**Selena Owen** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Selena does a great job of supporting the students and staff in our classroom. She is always looking for ways to help students to reach their potential. I am so lucky to work with her each day.”

**Orlando Ortiz** - Interpreter/Translator

“Orlando goes above and beyond. He’s always so willing to help when asked. He is always in such a good mood and smiling when he comes into our location. He works so hard to get any task done. We all appreciate Orlando so much!”

**ELC – Windom Staff**

“It’s been nothing short of a pleasure working with the staff within the ELC in Windom and I feel they should all be recognized for making me feel welcome and part of a family.”

**Tracy Kramer** – Revenue Cycle Specialist

“Tracy took on a large project this month that is critical to us continuing to serve TRC families. She managed the additional workload with minimal help from others, gathered all the necessary components, and was able to complete it seamlessly. All with the same joy and positivity she brings to work every day. Our team and our families are so fortunate to benefit from Tracy’s experience and dedication to TRC!!!”

**Courtney Haglund** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Courtney is the piece of the puzzle that everyone is looking for! We have been short staffed during the past months and Courtney has stepped into any role that is asked of her and she does it with a smile. She has amazing organizational skills and has become our ABA Desk guru! Her positive energy and outlook is contagious. Our students are so lucky to be able to work with Courtney each day. Thank you, Courtney, for all that you do for us each and every day here at the ELC in Windom!”

**Holly Nixon** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Holly is in her first month at Willmar ELC but you’d think she’s been there for years! She quickly built relationships with staff and students. She seeks out learning opportunities and has quickly become comfortable with data collection and daily tasks in the elementary classroom. We are grateful to have her at Willmar ELC and especially in the elementary classroom!”

**Leila Sanchez** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Leila does an amazing job working with every kid she comes into contact with. She is always someone you can count on when you need something. She has created relationships with many different students outside of the ones in her room! She always knows how to make a day better! Thank you Leila for everything you do!”

**Tina Kanthak & Laura Rudie** – School Counselors

“Tina & Laura are both amazing counselors with hearts of gold! Their connections and interactions with students are irreplaceable, and their support makes a big difference. Pipestone is lucky to have both of them!”

**Mackenzie Lemke & Angie Meyer** – School Social Workers

“Mackenzie and Angie both do phenomenal work with their students, and have been extremely helpful this year. They both have great knowledge, resources, and relationships with the individuals they work with. Willmar is lucky to have them!”

**Tammy Lenort** - Business Services Specialist

“We would like to express admiration and gratitude for the incredible job Tammy has been doing. Her dedication and commitment to stepping up and contributing to the team has not gone unnoticed. Tammy’s hard work, positive attitude, and willingness to go above and beyond has truly made a significant impact on our team. Her ability to tackle challenges with grace and enthusiasm sets a remarkable example for everyone around her. It’s evident that she not only cares about the success of her own work but also the success of the entire team. Great work!”

**Jackie Jostock** – Payroll Processing Specialist

“I would like to enthusiastically nominate Jackie for recognition due to her exceptional commitment to learning and rapid professional growth within our team. Her commitment to knowledge-sharing within the team has created a more collaborative and dynamic work environment. She has become a go-to resource for peers, willingly sharing insights and expertise, thereby contributing significantly to the collective growth of our team. Way to go Jackie!”