



Historical – Other Awards and Recipients at MCS D

Following are miscellaneous awards presented to MCS D personnel and students by different entities. Some of these awards were given on a regular basis but have been discontinued. MCS D is proud of all our past recipients, their accomplishments, and recognition.

2019-20 School Year

Not given due to COVID-19 Pandemic

2018-19 School Year

- Laura deShazo, Murray High School, 2018 Women Tech Award for Education Innovator

2017-18 School Year

Chick Fila “We Are Murray” Awards

- MacKenzie Erger – Parkside 4th Grade Teacher
- Jessica Felt – Viewmont Kindergarten Teacher
- Fidel Garcia – Grant Head Custodian
- Shelley Phillips – Hillcrest JHS Special Ed Teacher
- Barbara Stewart – Riverview JHS Cook I
- Christy Vuyk – McMillan 2nd Grade Teacher
- Jessie Agiriga – Murray High School Special Education Teacher
- Dolph Church – Murray High School Assistant Principal
- Jodi Jessop – McMillan Elementary 1st Grade Teacher
- Keira VanBeekum – McMillan Elementary 3rd/4th Grade Teacher
- Anne Kjar – Longview Elementary 3rd Grade Teacher

Board of Education Monthly Awards

- November 2017 – Horizon Elementary staff; Assistant Principal Whitney Anderson; PTA President Wendi Larsen
- October 2017 – Liberty Elementary School staff

Other District Personnel Awards

- Jason Carpenter, HJH English & history teacher – Grant award to attend the July C-Span 2018 Summer Educators’ Conference in Washington, DC.
- Keeko Georgelas, MHS Athletic Director – Certified Athletic Administrator recognition by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (May 9, 2018)
- Mildred Horton, district volunteer/former Board of Education member – Utah High School Activities Association SUPER FAN; one of six state-wide (March 2018)
- Jill Burnside, Liberty Elementary principal – Instructional Leader of the Year Award for State of Utah, Utah Association of Elementary School Principals (UAESP) Mid-Winter Conference (Feb. 15, 2018)
- Jane Haight, Hillcrest JH teacher – Driven2Teach Field Study Grant on the Civil War in VA, PA and Washington DC; sponsored by Larry H Miller Education Project & Zions Bank

- Johnny McConnell, Riverview JH science teacher – Cyprus Credit Union Teacher of the Month Award (12/6/17)
- Kristen Davis, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent – Murray City Arts Recognition for Exceptional Service to the Community (Oct. 2017)

Other District Student Awards

- Jeb Price – MHS, 2018 State Champion Skills USA Carpentry Contest (May 2018)
- Jeb Price – MHS, Senate Visual Arts Scholarship Competition (placed for scholarship) 2/5/18
- Active U Sports Scholarship Program – Trey Harper, Grant Elementary 3rd grader (winter basketball program) 12/8/17
- Active U Sports Scholarship Program – Abigail Greenburg, Murray HS 11th grader (\$250 for MHS Girl’s Tennis Team fees) 12/8/17
- Active U Sports Scholarship Program – Ngalu Pahulu, Hillcrest JH 8th grader (Club Union Volleyball fees) 12/8/17
- Youth Leadership Conference, Washington, DC as KRCL’s Radio ACTive Youth Ambassador – Siada Dahir, Murray HS 11th grader (Fall 2017)

2016-17 School Year

- Heather Preece, MHS school social worker – Promising Youth Conference Award (spring 2017)
- Kathy Dale, RJH librarian – KSL Newsradio Teacher Feature recognition
- Gina Dansie, RJH social studies teacher – Driven2Teach Field Study Grant Award trip
- MCS D for Hillcrest Jr. High School Replacement – ENR (Engineering News-Record) Mountain States Regional Projects 2016 award
- Alan Scott, MHS vocal music – UHSAA (Utah High School Activities Association) Music Educator of the Year

Board of Education

- OCT 2016: Aimee Ballard, Library & PE teacher Longview; Ellie Nordstrom, 6th gr student Longview; Steve Cottam, S.T.A.R. volunteer Longview
- NOV 2016: Caryn Waterman, administrative secretary Horizon; Konor Larsen 6th gr student Horizon; Adam Meyers volunteer & AmeriCorp member, Horizon; Officer Russ Burnside, Special Recognition
- DEC 2016: Cynthia Richards, Literacy Specialist McMillan; Allysea Nielsen, 3rd gr student McMillan; Kristen McCrae & Becca Westenskow, volunteers McMillan; Cris Westerfield, Special Recognition District ESL Lead



Historical – Other Awards and Recipients at MCSD

Board of Education

- JAN 2017: Geralyn Smith, 2nd gr teacher Viewmont
- FEB 2017: Karen Smith, English/Spanish Teacher RJH; Marshall Wood, 6th gr student Viewmont; Nicole Jimenez, 9th gr student RJH; Petra Winegar, volunteer RJH
- MAR 2017: D'Launa Rindlisbacher, math teacher HJH; Tichelle Dimick, hourly custodian HJH; Eli Powell, 9th gr student HJH
- APRIL 2017: Toni Wilkins, 4th gr teacher Liberty; Thayn Burnett, head custodian Liberty; Serenity Snow, 5th gr student Liberty; Jenn Schwendiman volunteer Liberty
- MAY 2017: Trina Evans, 1st gr teacher Parkside; Kaiser Gerrard, 4th gr student Parkside & Katie Barker, 6th gr student Parkside; Michelle Cross, volunteer Parkside

2015-16 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Dr. Steven Hirase – Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Congresswoman Mia Love (In recognition of outstanding and invaluable service to the community.)
- Christy Waite, MHS – Gilder Lehrman Teacher Seminar Fellowship at the University of Chicago
- Lavinia Gripenrog – Utah CEC Joanne Gilles Teacher of the Year
- Dr. Steven Hirase – National Schools Public Relations Association (NSPRA) “Superintendent to Watch” national award

Board of Education

- OCT/LGV: Jordan Jeppson & Miguel Perez, 3rd gr students Longview; Hannah Allred & Kaleb Snell, 6th gr students Longview; KayLee Schatten, volunteer Longview
- NOV/LBT: Shawn Johnson, psychologist Liberty; Laurie Martinez, teaching assistant Liberty; Sheri Heaton, Special Education teacher Longview; Garrett Heaton, 6th gr student Liberty; Davis
- May, IT/DO
- DEC/HZN: Lindsey Romero, assistant principal Horizon; Julie Rugg, teaching assistant Horizon; Wendi Larsen, volunteer Horizon
- JAN/HJH: Nicole Shannon, art teacher HJH; Piper Nache, 9th gr student HJH; Nathan Longhurst, volunteer HJH
- FEB/MCM: Samantha Walters, kg teacher McMillan; Zachary Kap, McMillan student; Kristen McRae, volunteer McMillan
- MAR/RJH: Pam Mantle, counselor RJH; Heidi Peaslee, counselor RJH; Izyc Bryner, student RJH; Morrisa Blackwell, student RJH
- APRIL/PKS: Nichole Penix, assistant principal Parkside, Officer Matt Black, DARE; Sarah Bright, volunteer Parkside; Boston GarreauDrawn, student Parkside
- MAY/MHS: Ilene Nelson, secretary to the principal MHS; William Taylor, student Horizon; Brianny Christensen, student MHS; Laurel Fetzer, volunteer MHS

2014-15 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Ryan Moffett, MHS art teacher – Utah Arts and Museums Art Educator Award (5/7/15)
- Vangee Watts, 1st grade teacher Viewmont – KSL Teacher Feature (5/15)
- Rick Kelson, Horizon 5th grade teacher – Supplies for Success Teaching Award, Christensen & Hymas Law Firm (5/15)
- Jennifer Covington, principal HJH – Outstanding Middle Level Administrator/Utah Middle Level Assoc.
- Jessica Dalton, Special Education teacher Viewmont – Utah CEC Joanne Gilles Teacher of the Year
- Shawn Johnson, Horizon Elem School Psychologist – Utah CEC Hilda B. Jones Special Educator of the Year

Board of Education

- SEPT 2014: Michael Okumura, 4th gr teacher Liberty Elementary
- OCT 2014: Anne Renz, 6th gr teacher Viewmont Elementary; Mark Allred, 6th gr teacher Viewmont Elementary; Cyndi Boulden, volunteer Liberty Elementary
- NOV 2014: Janel Williams, volunteer Horizon Elementary; Mitch McMillan, head custodian McMillan Elementary
- DEC 2014: Wendy Arnold, music teacher Liberty Elementary; Rebecca Westenskow, volunteer McMillan Elementary
- JAN 2015: No Awards • FEB 2015: Steve Cloward, head custodian Horizon Elementary; Erica Meyer, District substitute teacher
- MAR 2015: Brayden Mann, 6th gr student Liberty Elementary
- APRIL 2015: Rachel Christensen, 5th gr student Horizon Elementary
- MAY 2015: Natalie Cullen, Title 1 Para-Educator Parkside Elementary; Lucy Scarpa – Liberty student; Annie Dow, Library Media Aid Parkside Elementary
- JUNE 2015: Greg Hayward, Special Ed Para Horizon Elementary

2013-14 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- AnnMarie Nielson (MHS volunteer & classified employee) – Utah PTA Spirit of PTA
- Murray Early Childhood Center – Jeanette M. Misaka Outstanding Service Award, University of Utah Dept. of Special Education (4/14)
- Kay Morgan (MHS ProStart teacher) - ProStart Educator of Excellence, National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (3/14)
- Myrlene Buck (Horizon Special Ed teacher) - Utah Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Joanne Gilles Teacher of the Year award (2/14)



Historical – Other Awards and Recipients at MCSD

Board of Education

- JANUARY 2014: Adalei Moore, student Longview Elementary; Nils Larsen, student Hillcrest JH; Nathan Fetzner, student Hillcrest JH; Lorenz Rindlisbacher, ISS Coordinator Hillcrest JH
- FEBRUARY 2014: Kelle Baer, student Viewmont Elementary; Elizabeth Sage Holman, student MHS; Theresea Daniel, teacher Viewmont Elementary; Taralyn Horton, volunteer Liberty Elementary
- MARCH 2014: Sage Holman, student MHS; Amy Johnson, volunteer Viewmont Elementary; Hailey Peterson, 2nd grade student McMillan Elementary; Maylee Zollinger, 2nd grade student Viewmont Elementary
- APRIL 2014: Miriam Luna, computer lab assistant Horizon Elementary; John Preece, classroom volunteer Parkside Elementary
- MAY 2014: Joan Anderson, counselor MHS; Shelly Eyre, volunteer; Debbie Hymas, counseling office secretary MHS
- JUNE 2014: Lori Beck, volunteer Viewmont Elementary

2012-13 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Karen Emery (McMillan 3rd grade) – KSL Teacher Feature (3/13)
- Michelle Dansie (Riverview JH Para-educator) –CEC (Council for Exceptional Children) Para-educator of the Year (2/13)
- Pam Hansen (Viewmont 2nd grade) – Christensen & Hymas Golden Apple School Supplies Program (2/13)
- Grayce Rees (MHS Family & Consumer Sciences) – Area 2 Advisor of the Year, Utah Family Career and Community Leaders of America/FCCLA (2/13)
- Rebecca Elder (MHS math) – Finalist Presidential Awards For Excellence in Mathematics & Science Teaching (fall 2012)

2011-12 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Pam Hansen (Viewmont Elementary 2nd grade) – 2012 Golden Apple Award
- Amy Hall (Murray High math) – Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education Award
- Judy Mahoskey (Liberty Elem 6th grade) – Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education Award

2010-11 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Alan Gatenby (Murray High School CTE auto mechanics teacher) – Golden Apple Award
- Scott Bushnell (Murray High principal) – Utah State Principal of the Year

2009-10 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Rebecca Ivory (Riverview JH vocal music) – Golden Apple Award

2008-09 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

No awards

2007-08 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

Jennifer Kranz (Parkside Elementary principal) – Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education

2006-07 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Cindy Durante (Longview Elementary teacher 5th grade) – Golden Apple Award
- Pam Aoyagi (Longview Elementary teacher 1st grade) – Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education
- Joanne Gilles – Teacher of the Year, Utah Council for Exceptional Children Conference
- Cathy Hansen (Riverview JH counselor) – Counselor of the Year, Utah School Counselor Association
- Shauna Maughan (McMillan Elementary) – Calvin Taylor Award for Teacher of the Year, Utah Association for Gifted Children
- Jake Shewmake (MHS special education teacher) – Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year
- Marjorie Tuckett (Murray School Board President) – Lifetime Merit Award, Utah Association of Career & Technical Education

2005-06 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Becky Anderson (MHS counselor) – High School Counselor of the Year, Utah School Counselor Association
- Melody Barrenbruggee (McMillan) – Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year
- Connie Buckner (Grant principal) – 2006 Outstanding Alumni Award, University of Utah Special Education
- Quinn Drury (MHS vocational carpentry) – Concurrent Teacher of the Year
- Robin Griego (Longview) – Outstanding Arts Educator Award from A.R.T.S., Inc.
- Jennifer Kranz (Creekside HS principal) – Book of Golden Deeds Award, National Exchange Club; Murray Elks Club Superior Teacher/Administrator Award
- Beverly Labrum (Horizon) – KSL Radio Teacher Feature
- Larry Swim (MHS) – Utah High School Swimming Coaches Association Coach of the Year
- Heather Wihongi (Hillcrest JH) – Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year
- Community Arts Award/Murray City & Murray Arts Advisory Bd. – Riverview JH Custodial Staff: Trent Assay, Mike McCleery, James Lobato, David Lindorff
- Grant Elementary School – 1st Place Statewide Utah Jazz Reading Contest



Historical – Other Awards and Recipients at MCSD

2004-05 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- Richard Tranter (Murray City School District superintendent)
– Utah State Superintendent of the Year

2003-04 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

- No Awards

2002-03 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

Becky Anderson (MHS counselor), KSL Radio Teacher Feature recipient

1998-99 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

Richard Tranter (MCSD), Administrator of the Year UHSAA (Utah High Schools Activities Association)

1994-95 School Year

Other District Personnel Awards

Richard Tranter (MHS), Utah State Principal of the Year