**MAY 6, 2020 STAR AWARDS**

**Darlene Lindsay:** I just wanted to share how impressed I was moments ago with Darlene Lindsay.  There was a car accident on Taylor Avenue.  When I walked up to see if I could assist, Darlene had the situation under control. She was dialing 911, directing traffic and responding to the person who was in the accident. Although Taylor Avenue is technically not on her “beat” she did what any good citizen would do to manage the situation (except better).

**Nominated by: Kathleen Johnston & Matthew Andrews**

**Health Center Nurses:** National Nurse Week starts with National SCHOOL Nurse Day on May 6, that is why I would like to give a shout out to our SPECTACULAR nurses for their hard work and dedication. They all bring so many valuable skills with them. Also to everyone who works in the Health Center or with the Health Center, that includes our SPECTACULAR CNAs and CMTs. For everyone's hard work throughout the year in all different situations, they should be recognized and today is YOUR day! Since I started in the fall, it has been a great experience working with so many different people who all at the end of the day want what is best for the students at MSB.

**Nominated by: Amanda Brenneman**

**Jeff Macak:** I nominate Jeff Macak for a STAR reward for his thoughtful approach to matters that often require working across all departments and programs, as well as, all organizational levels.  He handles these matters with patience, flexibility, and humor in regards to solutions that often need adjustments 'mid-flight'.  Jeff certainly deserves recognition for the amazing work he does for both students, the families/guardians of students, and staff at MSB!

**Nominated By: Dorothy M. Hughes**

**Katie Kernan-Mariah Monroe-Amanda Williams-Jeanette Dircks:** I would like to recognize four Functional Academic teachers and their assistants! They are Katie Kernan, Mariah Monroe, Amanda Williams, Jeanette Dirck’s, and their assistants. These teachers and Paras have been working hard since day one making sure that our students are learning. They make sure that each student gets individual attention, physically and emotionally. They also make sure their IEP goals are being addressed and met. They are creative, fun and caring individuals! Working at school with these educators has been wonderful, but working from home they have made it inclusive, challenging and fun. I’m proud to call this group of individuals my friends!

**Nominated by: Leslie Updegraff**

**Angelica Flowers:** I wanted to nominate Angelica Flowers for a star award. She is a first year teacher and she has taken the year by storm. She goes above and beyond for her students and staff. She took the challenge of transitioning to online teaching so well. She’s taken every challenge with a smile on her face and has managed to keep us positive in this tough time.

**Nominated by: Maria Centeno Mora**

**Kathleen Johnston:** Kathleen’s calm and realistic approach to a job none of us signed up for lends to her strength as a leader. Her advocacy, determination, and ability to adapt ideas to meet many different needs is invaluable. Most of all, Kathleen truly cares about people. She is a helper. A doer who is not afraid to get her hands dirty. She will not only say, “We’re all in this together,” she will show you that it is true.  **Nominated by: Bridgett Smith**

I appreciate her being supportive with all her staff by helping them to find ways for them to contribute to the needs of the school. **Nominated by: Kelly Bingley**

As we manually shifted gears into drive, Kathleen fastened Dorm Managers into her seat belts, stepped on the accelerator and comfortably transported us to another way of working. We do not know how we could have managed this journey without you in the driver's seat.  We sincerely appreciate all your encouragement and support. **Nominated by: Pam Montgomery**

I appreciate her due diligence, efficiency, and support as well as patience with making sure we as managers understand everything. Also, for leading and managing the residential team in this difficult time, I could imagine the stress and workload. She handles it well, and really taking into consideration everyone's access and ability. Thank you.  **Nominated by: Marcus Elmore**

Kathleen always puts her best foot forward and supports her team day to day or in a crisis . She makes us want to give our best as well. It is times like this that strong leadership keeps us together.

**Nominated by: Nychell Anthony**

From the very beginning of this unexpected time, Kathleen has been student and staff focused. She has been encouraging and supportive. She is someone we can count on, lean on and learn from. Kathleen has managed to make this stressful time a little more manageable with her direction, creativity and understanding of people’s differences, challenges and abilities. Thank you, Kathleen, for all you do!
 **Nominated by: Tammy Davis**

Her dedication and commitment to not only the students but the staff is out of this world. She unselfishly, day and night, is working with staff and doing whatever it takes to help accomplish distant learning for students. Aside from that, her positivity and outlook on things is beyond incredible. She's truly captured "One Band, One Sound! I'm so proud to call her my Supervisor! **Nominated by: -Q-**

Kathleen is the type of supervisor a person would delight in knowing in the best of times, but most importantly in the worst of times.  Kathleen exhibits such strength, compassion, fortitude, understanding and grace. She can see the big picture then dissect it into smaller pieces to facilitate inclusiveness for all to comprehend.  She trust my instincts and decision making allowing me to be a better supervisor. Kathleen is not threatened by the accomplishments or success of others.  You can always find her modestly assuming a supporting role when she is in fact the STAR!

**Nominated by: Patreace Jennings**

**Karen Frank-Nick Pagani-Carol Seckington-Phyllis Simmons-Dareen Barrios-Cathy Dunnigan-Heather Saran:**

I would like to recognize the Principals and Assistant Principals. As when we are on campus, they are a consistent and available source of support to me, and the classroom staff. Schools and programs rise and fall on the leadership of the administrators, and all of the Principals and AP’s create a culture of high standards with support and collaboration. In my position, they have all been supportive with creativity and a wealth of knowledge that keeps the school, staff and students making progress no matter what circumstances we are working under.

A big thank you to Karen Frank, Nick Pagani, Carol Seckington, Phyllis Simmons, Dareen Barrios, Cathy Dunnigan and Heather Saran.

**Nominated by:  Josh Irzyk**