

Cottonwood Elementary School Teacher Honored

Victorville, May 3, 2012...First grade students at Cottonwood Elementary School gathered for a surprise assembly, unaware that one of their favorite teachers would be honored. Lori Kildal, dean of Academic Programs at Victor Valley College, created suspense as she read a description of the teacher who would be honored by Teacher “R” Heroes. Once Renee McAnulty’s name was read, the teacher found herself in the center of a flash mob of first graders reaching to congratulate her.

The Teachers “R” Heroes program recognizes an exemplary teacher each month from September through May. Nominations for teachers are received from parents, peers, administrators and community members.

McAnulty, joins eight other educators who have been recognized for excellence in the 2011-2012 academic year. A Cottonwood Elementary School teacher since 2011, McAnulty has taught both kindergarten and first grade.

The beloved first grade teacher received six nominations earning praise for her selfless service, problem solving skills, nurturing manner, dedication and accessibility to parents.

One single parent wrote that McAnulty went to great lengths to ensure that she was informed even though her schedule didn’t always allow her to attend school functions. The first grade teacher would snap photos using her cell phone and would forward photos of the child receiving an award or participating in some activity.

Another parent wrote, “She is more than a teacher. She is a friend to a parent, an adviser, a counselor and much more. She is an awesome teacher and my son loves her so much.”

The “Teachers are Heroes” program is sponsored by Victor Valley College and E I Dorado Broadcasters. School participation is coordinated through San Bernardino County Schools. Winners receive a plaque and a basket filled with gifts and gift cards, as well as pizza party for their class. Participating businesses and agencies include Little Caesars Pizza, La Casita Restaurant, Vitelli’s Deli, Reed Foods, Victorville Speed Wash, Ultra Star Theaters, Horace Mann-Robert Stephanian, San Bernardino County First District Supervisor Brad Mizelfelt and the Daily Press.

Teacher nominations may be submitted in the form of 500 words-or-less essays to www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com, www.Y102FM.com, www.TheFox106.com, www.Talk960.com, or www.vvc.edu. Nominations may also be sent by mail to Victor Valley College, Teachers are Heroes, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, attention Dr. Lori Kildal.