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ACSA Awards go to many in Lamorinda Schools

By Andrea A. Firth

The Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) in Region 6, which includes schools in Contra Costa and Alameda counties, recently recognized the exceptional work and volunteer efforts of several employees and parents involved with the Lamorinda schools.

The Friends of Education Award was given to eight parents from Orinda who were the driving force behind the move toward more healthy food choices on the lunch menus at the schools in the Orinda Union School District (OUSD). Known by some as the Orinda Lunch Program Pioneers, these individuals, who represent each of the five schools in the OUSD, direct and work along side hundreds of parent volunteers to provide tasty, healthy lunch options to Orinda students each day.

Three school administrators from the Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) received awards for their exceptional work: Cheryl Hazell-Small, Director of Special Services; Jim Negri, Superintendent; and John Stockton, Associate Superintendent. Ms. Hazell-Small was recognized for the positive change she has affected in special education services and for her role as a teacher and mentor to staff in this area. Along with the strong leadership he has shown with the District's strategic planning program and Healthy Choices initiatives, Jim Negri was also recognized for the many partnerships that he has created with students, staff, parents, and members of the community. And John Stockton; described by his boss, Jim Negri, as his "go to person" on any issue, was lauded for his leadership in the areas of strategic planning, professional development, and teacher negotiations. In addition, Jerry Bucci, Director of Business Services at OUSD, also received an Administrator's Award. He was singled out for the highly effective job he does in communicating the fiscal picture of the District to the Governing Board, staff, and stakeholders.

ACSA Teacher Awards were given to Molly Henrikson of Campolindo High School and Jan Howard from Wagner Ranch Elementary School. Currently teaching Advanced Placement European History and Advanced Placement Psychology, Ms. Henrikson was recognized for her professional and hard working approach to teaching, which is complemented by her ability to serve as a friend and mentor to many students. Ms. Howard, a 4th and 5th grade teacher for the past 15 years, was described as a teacher who stimulates a child's desire to do his or her best work. "Jan builds relationships with children in such a way that they believe they are capable of succeeding at anything," explains Wagner Ranch Principal Janis Americh.

In addition, Robin Bradley, an employee at Del Rey School in

ACSA Awards, Region 6, 2007-2008 Lamorinda Recipients	
Classified Employee	
Robin Bradley	Del Rey Elementary
Teachers	
Molly Henrikson	Campolindo High School
Jan Howard	Wagner Ranch Elementary
Administrators	
Jerry Bucci	Director, Business Services AUHSD
Cheryl Hazell-Small	Director, Special Services AUHSD
Jim Negri	Superintendent AUHSD
John Stockton	Associate Superintendent AUHS
Friends of Education	
<i>Orinda Lunch Program Pioneers</i>	
Robin Bradley	Del Ray Elementary
Sandy Breber	Orinda Intermediate School
Liz Haughey	Wagner Ranch Elementary
Linda Judkins	Orinda Intermediate School
Michele Lehman	Sleepy Hollow Elementary
Beth Marks	Del Rey Elementary
Lori Strand	Glorietta Elementary
Jennifer Vigo	Wagner Ranch Elementary

Orinda, was awarded the ACSA Classified Employee Award for the region. As a member of the front office staff at Del Rey, Robin Bradley is the face to the world both inside and outside of the school—a role she fills with a professional manner and a lot of heart. "I can honestly say that she makes a positive impact on everything she touches," notes Del Rey Principal Kirsten Theurer, "and she touches a lot."