

## **What is the THOSE WHO EXCEL PROGRAM?**

### **GOOD WORK DESERVES PEER RECOGNITION**

**Those Who Excel** is an educational awards program that honors seven categories of individuals who have gone above and beyond in performing their job duties. This program is an opportunity for staff to recognize outstanding co-workers. It is an opportunity to let the public know the great work being done by District 205 personnel.

This year, Those Who Excel has added a NEW CATEGORY - Early Career Educator. This category is designed to recognize teachers in their second to fifth year of teaching. We all know teachers who show tremendous potential early in their careers. This category is designed to recognize this potential and encourage professional growth among teachers early in their careers.

The other six categories are:

-Classroom Teacher: Preschool, elementary, secondary, specials teachers--- who spend more than 50% of the time instructing classes of students.

-Administrator/Principal: Superintendent, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, coordinators, directors--- who are more than 50% administrative.

-Student Support Personnel (Certificated): Certified school nurses, psychologists, social workers, guidance counselors, speech/language pathologists, itinerants, librarians, etc. ---who spend 50% of their time in the indicated field.

-Educational Service Personnel (Non-certificated): Paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers, secretaries, library aides, bus drivers, crossing guards, playground aides, etc.

-School Board Member/Community Volunteer: Individuals who volunteer regularly in one or more of the schools or school programs.

-Team: Group of 2-5 individuals that have direct academic impact on students. Group must have an identifiable name. Call for further information before proceeding with this category.

-All nominators and nominees (except volunteers) must be District 205 employees.

-Rockford award recipients are eligible to participate in the state-wide Those Who Excel program.

-Nominations include written responses by the nominators to five specific questions.

-Assistance with how to complete nominations is available.

Nominations are due Wednesday, February 19, 2014.

The reception introducing nominees is Thursday, March 13, 2014.

The awards banquet is Thursday, April 24, 2014.

For questions or more information, call:

Brenda Robinson-Young home: 815-395-1988 cell: 815-222-2210

Linda Kimel work: 815-229-2881 cell: 815-988-7078