

Special Announcement

May 2022

2022 Outstanding Employee Contribution Award Recipient

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that four (4) recipients have been selected to receive the **Outstanding Employee Contribution Award**.

Audrey Seymour-Spence (School Secretary – Wanipigow School)

Madeleine Cook (Teacher – Grand Rapids School)

Laura Kelly (Vice Principal – West Lynn Heights School)

Donna Barker (Teaching Principal – Barrows Junction School)

The criteria for this award includes proficiency in responsibilities, contribution to the Division and community, evidence of leadership, and personal and/or professional growth.

Subsequent announcements will provide information about the other recipients.

MADELEINE COOK

Madeleine was raised in Grand Rapids and graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree through the PENT Program offered in her community. She started with the Division on August 29, 1990 as a teacher at Grand Rapids School where she is currently teaching and has taught a variety of subjects including Cree Language and most recently Nursery. Madeleine is known to go above and beyond in all areas of her job as well as her adaptability and her willingness to learn and try new things. She has been described as an exceptional Nursery Teacher and her students go well prepared into the next grade.

Madeleine has also dedicated countless hours to her community by volunteering her time as a CFS board member, at community meetings, for community game nights, the Grand Rapids Winter Festival board and the Misipawistik Cree Nation Housing Committee.

Madeleine has dedicated almost all of her career to Grand Rapids School and her commitment to the children in the school as well as the community is apparent. When she takes part in community events, she is met with hugs everywhere she goes; this is certainly an indication of her impact on the children of Grand Rapids.

Testimonials provided the following insights into Ms. Cook's contributions:

"Madeleine has a presence in Grand Rapids School. She is entirely and completely respected by everyone. She embodies the seven teachings of love, respect, courage, honesty, wisdom, humility, and truth. Madeleine's contribution to the school and community are exemplary."

(Robert Chartrand, Area 2 Superintendent)

"Grand Rapids is her home; she loves the kids and she is exactly where she wants to be. Madeleine has taken her life experiences and used them to help become the person she is today."

(Charlotte Campbell, Principal, Grand Rapids School)

"To say that Mrs. Cook cares about her students is an understatement, she gives education her all. She genuinely cares about each student. It shows when she meets up with former students who still have the utmost respect for her and call her Mrs. Cook."

(Jessica Lavalley, Teacher, Grand Rapids School)

"Madeleine always has a positive attitude and is very warm and inviting, making it easy to talk to her about anything that is bothering you and she is always happy to help any way she can."

(Brittney Ferland, Teacher, Grand Rapids School)