The Awesome Awards are designed to appreciate and celebrate the unsung heroes in our school division who make Hampton City Schools an awesome place to
3rd Edition
Mr. Booker is always looking for ways to make learning fun. He is a breath of fresh air. The students love him and he has built meaningful relationships throughout every grade. I am so thankful to work on his team!

Eric Booker
Bryan Elementary School
Nominated by: Kim Freemont

Mrs. Pell is the epitome of positive energy. She comes to work every day ready to work with children. She is always looking for ways to improve her knowledge of literacy and reading best practices for the students she works with. Mrs. Pell is also a wonderful team player because she is always willing to help above and beyond, such as volunteer at our Math and Reading Night and the much needed overhaul of our book room. I don’t know what we would do without her!!

Norene Pell
Kraft Elementary School
Nominated by: Sarah Foy
Sierra Ware
Hampton HIgh School
Nominated by: Kenya Whitney

Ms. Ware has done an amazing job growing as a lead teacher as well as a department chair for the English department. Her students gravitate to her new ideas for learning and they appreciate her fresh vision for teaching English. She is an awesome star here at Hampton High School as well as Hampton City Schools.

DeWitte Wilson
Information Technology Department
Nominated by: Aileen Aaronson

DeWitte works with staff throughout the district helping them with their accounts. He is marvelous at walking individuals through what they need to do whether it is getting their account set up, having account issues, or they just simply don't understand. He has tremendous patience and has never been rude at anytime. This in itself can be a tough job but he does it on top of everything else that he is required to do within the IT department which is a lot!
In addition to being an amazing 3rd grade teacher, she has built a STEM learning lab for the whole school to use. She has created an after school STEM program for the students and tutors before and after school all year long. Her love for the kids is seen in her hard work and long hours.

Linda Davis
Kecoughtan High School
Nominated by: Pamela Hairston

Ms. Davis is not only our instructional leader, she is someone who loves teaching, shaping and molding our students - particularly our freshmen. She wants to help not only our new teachers, but the "veteran" teachers as well. Many times she will place her work aside to assist us. Linda Davis is determined to help students realize their best and she strives to see Kecoughtan remain an academic contender.
Elizabeth Leetch
Phenix PreK-8
Nominated by: Catherine Doherty

Ms. Leetch is a natural born teacher. She instinctively knows what her students need. She plans exciting, thought provoking lessons. She also helps at almost all events. Whenever anyone needs help, she is right there to assist. She is an asset to Phenix and to HCS!!! I wish we had more like her!

Doris Orgain
Innovation and Professional Learning Department
Nominated by: Katina Acree-Williams

Doris is awesome because she is always willing to help and she goes the extra mile all the time. She is very knowledgeable and if she does not know the answer she will find the answer. She is a resource to have at any school and an asset to the district.
Ms. Bryant is an awesome teacher who is able to establish relationships with her students and boosts their confidence by encouraging them and pointing out their best qualities. She expects greatness and the children respond as it is evident in their behavior and their work. Her students appear to be encouraged and empowered to do their best.

Anna is my mentor and I am so thankful for her. She has been a listening ear to all of my questions and provides me with amazing feedback!
The social studies department would like to nominate Dr. James Maxlow for the Awesome Award for the consistently "awesome and amazing" support he provides to us here at SAC. No matter how big or small our technology request is, he humbly and politely takes personal ownership of the request to ensure it is attended to and carried out. He always amazes us with how expeditiously he is able to assist us—usually within the same hour or certainly by the end of the day. Dr. Maxlow is one of those special persons who goes the extra mile even when no one is watching. He models daily how doing one's job with a conscientious and positive attitude makes others take notice and inspires them do their best as well. Although we know Dr. Maxlow doesn't expect recognition or accolades, we want him to know that we consider him to be the embodiment of great customer service here at HCS!

Dr. James Maxlow
Information Technology
Nominated by: Alma Dietz and the Social Studies Department

Katelyn Keefe
Phoebus High School
Nominated by: Elizabeth LaBreck

Katelyn works really hard to find creative ways to rein in freshmen enthusiasm and teach them solid ELA skills. She builds strong relationships with her students and works hard to prepare them for a high school career. She is awesome!
Brenda Bailey
Barron Elementary School
Nominated by: Principal, Karen Johnson

Ms. Bailey is the epitome of customer service. She has a heart for assisting and frequently goes above and beyond for not only staff members, but also students, parents and visitors in the building. One such example: A parent came to Barron not sure about where and how to register his child for school (child was in middle school). Ms. Bailey went over all requirements with the parent, provided him directions to the child’s zoned school, and after the parent left, called the school to let them know he was on the way so he would be greeted there! That's just one example of the many, many things Ms. Bailey does for people.

Lynn Perry
Information Technology Department
Nominated by: Aileen Aronson

Lynn provides outstanding support to the schools and goes above and beyond to make sure they get the help they need, even when it is outside of her area of expertise. She also continues to look for new and innovative ways to make things easier in PowerSchool/PowerTeacher for the end users.
I nominate the entire CITT group. (bottom row: Beth Horne, Kim Weaver, Becca LeCompte; top row: Jennifer Lockett, Belinda Flucker, Doris Orgain, Kate Maxlow). They are always great to work with, they get involved with whatever they are working on and figure it out. They almost always have an answer to any problem. This makes the CITT group - AWESOME! You can bet that if you call them to help with something, they will get it done.

Dr. Kim Richardson
Teacher Development Coordinator
Nominated by: Nancy Terrell

I would like to nominate Dr. Kim Richardson for the HCS "Awesome Award". Dr. Richardson is a wonderful leader and mentor. She provides amazing staff development to help impact our students in our school as well as in our personal lives. She has high expectations and makes sure people are accountable for their commitments. Her willingness to help others grow is a benefit to Hampton City Schools.
Ms. G always goes above and beyond to help the teachers, students, staff, and families at Booker. She has our school running like a well oiled machine, as is a master of multitasking! Her positive outlook and pleasant personality are beyond impressive, especially in the midst of chaos. She has a heart for giving, which is evident in her interactions with others day in and day out. She is such a blessing!

Dr. Sharmaine Grove

Kecoughtan High School
Nominated by: Melissa Duckworth

Dr. Grove displays a positive attitude that encourages others to look for the positive as well. She is supportive to ALL teachers, not just those in her academy. She will go out of her way to work with teachers who are facing challenges, giving up her limited time to ensure that we feel valued. She also gives feedback that is timely and critical without making teachers feel denigrated. Dr. Grove is firm but fair with students. She knows their names and she reaches out to them to offer guidance and support. There is no one at KHS who works as hard as she does to make staff, students, and visitors feel welcome and excited to be here.
Bobbie is organized. Bobbie is all about caring for the students of Armstrong. Her everyday encounters are filled with positive interactions. Her small groups encourage students to interact, practice appropriate word choices to express their feeling and examine their behavior. Ms. Carroll is about the entire student: feelings, behavior, academics, friends and social interactions. Ms. Carroll networks to put together a plan that best meets the student's needs. Her bulletin boards are student centered with emphasis on the key points she is working on in classroom guidance. Ms. Carroll is a great asset to the students and staff at Armstrong. Bobbie does not permit her part time status as counselor to limit her productive nature.

Bobbie Carroll
Armstrong School For The Arts
Nominated by: Eleanor Kimball

I use Jimmy's room every other day for a single class period. I've learned more about how the school operates, who to ask questions of, and who is the best help for various things. I have learned more from Jimmy than any other single person. Unstinting support. Did you know he is also a Lieutenant Colonel?

Jimmy Kimbrough
Kecoughtan High School
Nominated by: Brian Croteau
1st Edition
Heather Peterson
Climate and Culture
Nominated by: Carla Mahn

Heather is a one woman show and never says "no". She loves kids and wants them all to have a safe person to go to when in need. She even takes on the responsibility to be that person for numerous kids herself. Heather is full of ideas and has been an amazing support and resource for the school counselors in this division. She is always looking for ways to help buildings administrators to provide the best culture for their students and staff.

Tina Kerby
Academy Coach: Hampton High School
Nominated by: Phillip Thompson

Mrs. Kerby is absolutely amazing she does everything in her power to make the academies at Hampton High a success and often goes unnoticed. She works tirelessly to help students in need and is always there to support the teachers as well.
I taught English from 2005 to 2011. Then I switched to special education. This year I switched back to Language Arts. Everything is different from what I remember....from simple things like taking attendance, setting up the grade book, and accessing the curriculum to more difficult tasks of using Google classroom effectively, incorporating technology into my lessons with breakout sessions, and implementing the writers workshop...Ms. Deskevich has been the best resource. Without her, I would’ve been lost.

Katina Acree-Williams
Eaton Middle School
Nominated by: Linda Drummond

Ms. Acree-Williams is a hard worker at Eaton, and still finds time to assist me with whatever I need to help me become that successful/best practice educator.
Susan Booth
Jones Magnet Middle School
Nominated by: Mary Anne Gaus

Since arriving at Jones, she has rebuilt the HCS Planetarium for not only our students to learn, but offers recertification points for teachers in the district, and free general public shows for our community. Her strengths provided funding from other sources by being a recipient of the NSTA District Regional Shell Lab to build a STEAM classroom adjacent to the planetarium. Also a recipient of the Russ Wayland Mini Grant to Improve Teaching for purchasing planetarium shows. She connected disciplines by receiving a joint Hampton Arts Commission School Grant for a Planetarium Mural and a follow-up restructuring of the amphitheater next to the STEAM lab. Just when you think it is over she is now working on bringing an Astronaut to tell the history of Hampton with Mercury Blvd to bring the community alive to all. Awesome oozes out of Susan!

Carolyn Sexton
Hampton High School
Nominated by: Ashley Ault

Carolyn is one of our school librarians and is always going above and beyond in everything she does. She's always willing to collaborate, shares resources and asks for feedback, and encourages a very interactive space within her library that supports learning in many ways. Plus, she's always friendly, warm, and inviting (which is just a plus)!
Mrs. LeCompte is always patient and thorough when instructing teachers how to use technology. It is easy to be either thorough, or patient, and consistently being both makes her awesome.

Anita Parker
Phillips Elementary School
Nominated by: Traci Pollard

Mrs. Parker is always willing to help whenever she is asked, and goes above and beyond to help other staff!
Kim Weaver
Innovation and Professional Learning
Nominated by: Craig Freeman

Kim’s skills and ability in assisting teachers with all they need are legendary. She is constantly looking for new and exciting tech tools or ways for technology to be infused into the classroom learning environment. She has also been instrumental in assisting with writing new curriculum.

Jackie Stetina
Tarrant Middle School
Nominated by: Ronnie Wilson

She is my school mentor at Tarrant and she has made my life 1000x easier with her listening ear and being a great example and help thus far!