

Special Announcement

June 11, 2018

2018 OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION AWARD RECIPIENT

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that **Marla Kolomaya** is the recipient of the **2018 Frontier Award for Outstanding Employee Contribution**.

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

Marla earned her High School Diploma from Ashern Central School in 1991 and obtained her Applied Counseling Certificate through the University of Manitoba Continuing Education in 1996. She started her career at Frontier School Division on December 1, 2004 as an Educational Assistant for the Gypsumville Adult Learning Centre. A counselling opportunity arose in September of 2009 and she moved into the School Counsellor role at Gypsumville School, a position she currently holds. Marla works very hard at keeping herself current in her profession. She even attends courses in British Columbia every summer during her holidays to learn more about the developmental approach and child development through the esteemed Neufeld Institute. Marla has dedicated countless hours to her school and community. Some of the activities she has been involved with include coaching volleyball, serving as a board member of the Northern Interlake Recreation Complex in St. Martin, and she even provided evening Counselling courses in the Gypsumville and Fairford area. Marla makes it her priority to genuinely get to know all staff and students and is known for her huge heart and believing in every child.

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

"Ms. Kolomaya is the consummate employee. Once you meet her it is only a matter of time before you recognize her personal uniqueness and her dedication to students, families, community and Frontier School Division. Her personality exemplifies patience, empathy, care and warmth."
(Robert Chartrand, Area 2 Superintendent, Frontier School Division)

"I have always known Marla to have a huge heart and she is always "on call". No matter what time of day of day of the week that she receives a call, she selflessly puts things aside and helps those in need. Marla has a soft, kind and caring way that soothes those whom she works with."
(Shawn Oswald, Principal, Gypsumville School)

"She has dedicated herself to enriching the lives of students and staff around her. She is truly a special person and is well-known for her compassion and commitment to helping others."
(Katie Sinclair, Gypsumville School Committee Chairperson)

"Marla has a true gift for this job. Her ability to form relationships with the students in our school is top notch. Everyone wants to each lunch with Ms. K or visit with Ms. K and she truly makes time for each of them."
(Jodi Kalden, Grade 3/4/5 Teacher, Gypsumville School)

"Her job is her life, and our students are always in her thoughts and especially in her heart. I feel honoured to work with such a talented and caring individual."
(Joel Oswald, Grade 6/7/8 Teacher, Gypsumville School)

"I have taught and trained many counsellors and therapists over the years, but few are of the caliber and character of Marla."
(Gordon Neufeld, Ph.D., Clinical and Developmental Psychologist, Vancouver, BC)

The award will be presented at an Area function in June. Please join us in congratulating Ms. Kolomaya on this achievement and we thank her for her outstanding contribution to students and to the Division.



Linda Ballantyne, Chairperson
Board of Trustees