

Promise Award

2013 Districtwide Volunteers of the Year

As excerpted from Bellingham Public Schools:

Bellingham Public Schools leaders and community partners recently surprised 19 individuals as 2013 District-wide Promise Award recipients and are pleased to announce the honorees from our schools and central services.

“We want to thank all of the staff members and volunteers being recognized for the valuable work they do every day to support our students. These awards represent the collective commitment and promise to our students,” says Superintendent Greg Baker. “Congratulations to our 2013 award recipients!”

The Promise Award Program recognizes the exemplary achievements and contributions of staff and volunteers, especially as they align with [The Bellingham Promise](#), our district’s strategic plan.



2013 Districtwide Volunteers of the Year: Gene Myers and Mardi Solomon, parents at Columbia Elementary School. Gene’s and Mardi’s countless hours of volunteer work have had a positive impact on students both at Columbia Elementary and districtwide. Their work encompasses school grounds enhancements, art projects, school gardens and harvests of the month. Their work is indicative of a whole child approach to learning, supporting our district staff with innovative health and environmental initiatives. Among numerous projects, Gene currently is helping his school community with a design project for an outdoor classroom space, while Mardi continues her food and nutrition advocacy work with Harvest of the Month and the Farm to School Advisory Group at the district level. As a Columbia Elementary teacher and parent says, “The volunteer work Mardi and Gene have done on behalf of students in Bellingham Public Schools has been highly transformative, greatly enriching the education experience of all district students.”