

5th Grade

Samantha Cebulski – 5th grade

This student has come out of her shell so much since the start of 5th grade. She takes her learning seriously; she truly values the opportunities she is given. She always raises her hand in class even if she isn't sure her answer is correct. By trying her hardest in everything she does, always checking her work, asking for help when she needs it, and putting her best effort into every answer she gives, she sets a wonderful example for her peers.

All her teachers admire the quiet, humble way she works toward success; her goal is never to be in the spotlight, but just simply to be the best she can be. Coupled with this humble nature is her innate kindness and thoughtfulness. She is always willing to help her classmates. When a teacher borrowed another student's paper to show the class something, she immediately moved her copy over so that the student could see what the teacher was talking about. She always has a smile for her teachers and it certainly makes their day. And as an added bonus, she laughs at all Miss Thiemann's jokes.

Quiet, conscientious, and always doing the right thing--Highland School is lucky to have **Samantha Cebulski**.

Ella Sharo – 5th Grade

Today I was truly inspired by a student. When I approached her to ask why she had been crying, I learned that another student had ruined something that was special to her--something small, but something she had created. What impressed me greatly was that she asked me if it was okay that she not tell me the name of her classmate who had ripped up her work. She went on to say that this person had apologized, she had accepted his apology, and she felt everyone should move on.

I was blown away by her maturity. She was visibly upset; she wore her sadness on her face--having lost something special to her, and yet she wasn't looking to get even. She wasn't looking to fill her hurt by punishing someone else. I was moved and inspired by her wisdom and kindness.

As her teacher, I'm daily impressed by her work ethic and the serious way she approaches her learning. Today I was moved by her character. Choosing to do the right thing when we are hurt or angry is extremely challenging, and this student accomplished this feat with grace. Although she was upset and understandably angry, **this girl** still chose to do the right thing, and I applaud her. **Sidenote-** this young lady also set up the compost bins in the cafeteria that we now have and inspired me to do the No Waste Theme. Thank-you **Ella Sharo**.