

Highland Do the Right Thing

December 2022

The following are the actual submissions for the Highland School DTRT award which were presented in front of the entire school and read aloud during an assembly. Students who are nominated are then called up to the front of the gym with a theme song playing and student applause to receive their deserved T-shirt and a firm handshake from the Principal. Submissions are made by adults within the school who witness selfless acts of kindness or consistent role model behavior.

Hudson Young

This student is a friend to everyone. He is quick to help those in need and always takes the feelings of others into consideration. Last week in gym class during a game of Gaga ball, this student sacrificed a win to help another student succeed. Teachers and aides alike were overwhelmed by his sportsmanship and compassion for others. He demonstrates integrity at all times. He truly understands the importance of being kind, especially when no one is looking. For the reasons mentioned above, and more, we nominate



Luca Morales

This third grader comes into school each day with a smile and a positive attitude. She shows up not just for herself, but for her teacher and classmates, too. She is always willing to lend a helping hand and takes tremendous pride in her work. Her ability to always look on the bright side of things is impressive.

This student works hard for the grades she earns, as evidenced by her willingness to come for extra help opportunities. She stretches her brain outside of her comfort zone, seeks new challenges, and perseveres when concepts are tough. This student expresses her deep appreciation and gratitude often by saying, "Thank you for all of your help today!"

This student works well with the other kids in the class. She has tremendous patience and genuinely wants the best for others. She gives compliments freely without ever expecting any in return. Her enthusiasm and kind heart makes our classroom brighter each day.

For these reasons and more, I would like to nominate.....



Gavin Turitz

This student has adjusted to 5th grade fantastically. Every day he comes in to class with a smile on his face and the willingness to learn. He embodies what it means to do the right thing:

- Consistently participating
- Great attitude
- Tries his best
- Polite to everyone
- Always smiling
- Helpful
- We could go on and on.

Even after being out sick for a lengthy amount of time two times this year, this student came back to school each time prepared and ready to make up what he missed.

We would like to nominate...



Jonathan Villavicencio



Teachers often reflect on our mixture of students and realize that some students have qualities that become a beacon for those around them. They might be honest, friendly, or hard-working and this becomes an inspiration to others. One student this year is the very embodiment of giving his best effort. He listens carefully, asks questions, and makes corrections when needed. Every assignment is completed with care. As he works with others, his positive attitude raises the performance of the group. This young man shows that you don't have to have a forceful personality to be a leader. The bar you set for yourself can become one that others want to match. Leading by example, this young man, is doing the right thing.....

Liam Leckie



Qualities this student possesses that qualify him for a Do The Right Thing Award:

- Leader
- Laid back
- Lots of laughs
- Lovable
- Lively
- Light-hearted
- Likable
- Legendary

We would like to nominate....

Gino Tardibuono

This student is a great example of what it means to “do the right thing.” First, he works hard to meet expectations with no complaints. He puts 100% effort into his assignments by asking good questions, listening closely to others, and sharing his ideas. No matter the obstacle, he perseveres and sees challenges as opportunities to grow. He also has a heart of gold. He ALWAYS acts out of kindness when interacting with his teachers and peers. His positivity radiates through his big smile and great sense of humor. We appreciate the fire he has in him! His teachers feel lucky to have him in our classes. This wonderful boy is...



London Niebles

These two students continually come to school and always do the right thing. They act as role models to their peers, both behaviorally and academically. These two students also always give a helping hand to anyone in need. Additionally, these two students do not take school for granted, they come each day with a new appreciation for learning.

Both of these students also shine because of their amazing character. Both are honest, trustworthy, and display unbelievable respect to everyone they encounter. If asked to assist classmates, they do so with kindness, grace, and patience.

These two students make Highland School a better place and deserve to earn DTRT awards.....

Samuel Paul



Hailey Weston



A few weeks ago, the school had a food drive leading up to the Thanksgiving season. One 6th grade student in particular went above and beyond, bringing in bags and bags of food on multiple days. This person brought so much food, that I had to email home to make sure she wasn't cleaning their family out. (she wasn't)

Acts like this speak to the character of this young person. She is kind and hard working and present and bright. Her generosity does not go unnoticed.



Matthew Derwin

Pizza is good. In fact it was ranked the #1 food by Americans in a recent survey that asked, "If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life what would it be?"

So it was nice to see these two 4th graders give up their own pizza (they got two slices), to their friends who did not order any. They were not asked to give up the pizza. They did not announce that they gave up their pizza and money was not exchanged. They just did.

For their selflessness in giving up America's #1 food, would the following students please come forward...

Lucas Caldelas



Victoria Gizzi



This student is highly motivated to do the right thing! This student has taken full responsibility for their role as being trustworthy since the beginning of fourth grade. This student works hard and uses opportunities to help their classmates and teachers. There is not a day that goes by when this student is not reaching out a helping hand. Throughout the day, this student helps classmates by supporting them and guiding them to complete assignments not by giving them the answers but by helping them locate the information to complete their work. For every assignment or task, 100% is given and perseveres through challenges. Our classroom family unit is better because of this student's positive presence. At the end of the day, this student stays a few minutes beyond the bell to help organize and clean our classroom in order to be prepared for the next day. We are so proud of this student and that is why we are nominating

Izzy Brenna

This student got off to a great start in the first marking period. In 6th grade, transitioning to a new schedule and workload can be difficult for many students. However, this student has been hard-working since day one and is only getting stronger. She asks for help, participates in class, advocates for herself, and can work with anyone. We want her to know her hard work is paying off and she should be proud and confident in herself! We would like to nominate...

