

## THE ATHENA ASSELANIS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The following people (listed alphabetically) have been nominated by the PTA Board, teachers and school staff for the Athena Asselanis Volunteer of the Year Award. (Specific quotes have been used from some of the nominators.) Please vote for only one:

**Jennifer Barnett** – Jennifer serves on the PTA Board as a Co-Chairperson for the Book Fair Committee. In the Fall, she assisted Mrs. Ruffa with the Book Fair. Recently, Jennifer successfully managed and organized the Spring Book Fair and Pasta Dinner. Jennifer has spent several years at Pinchbeck helping students and teachers, including lead-5<sup>th</sup> grade room parent. She also served as the Chairperson for the Outdoor Classroom Committee.....”as a result of her dedication, we now have a great Outdoor Classroom.”

**SuAnne Blair** – SuAnne serves on the PTA Board as the Corresponding Secretary, responsible for recognizing and celebrating everyone from the bus drivers to the office staff. She has spent many years at Pinchbeck volunteering on different committees and helping out where needed. SuAnne has been very supportive of her children’s classroom and teachers. She and her husband provided a class with a community based instructional trip to the dentist office and made it educational and fun. “She is a true meaning to the idea of parent/teacher association.”

**Jennifer Haueis** – Jennifer serves on the PTA Board as a Co-Chairperson for the Room Parent Committee. As a Room Parent Chair, she helps organize class themed parties, coordinates projects and quarterly teacher luncheons, makes copies, and recruits and coordinates volunteers. She helps teachers feel special year round but especially during Teacher Appreciation Week. Not only does she help school-wide, but she volunteers on a regular basis in her children’s classrooms. “I believe that there is not a job she wouldn’t attempt and complete!”

**Heidi Jadowski** – Heidi serves on the PTA Board as the Communications Chairperson. Heidi has given so many years of service to our school. After being President last year, she could have taken it easy but she chose to completely revamp Communications. “Heidi has done an amazing job this year with our new weekly electronic PTA newsletter.” She has improved the way Pinchbeck connects to the parents, teachers and staff by creating efficient online communication and networking through the Weekly News. Heidi has spent a lot of time establishing an extensive database of email addresses and developing new ideas for increasing PTA communication. Parents can now register their children for various Pinchbeck events through links in emails. Heidi “has been infinitely helpful to the PTA Board in promoting our programs and schedules.” Not only has she “given so many years of service to the school....she also volunteers in her child’s classroom and is always willing to help out when she can.”

**Kim Lesniak** – Kim serves on the PTA Board in charge of Mrs. Clayton’s Cupboard for the Community Service Committee. She has done a great job creating a healthy supply of snacks to students whose parents cannot provide on a daily basis. Over the years, Kim has consistently volunteered at various events, in the classroom, and previously served as Treasurer for 2 years. “She is involved in her children’s learning but also shows strong support for all Pinchbeck students as well as the teachers.”

**Becky Myers** – Becky serves on the PTA Board as the Ways & Means Chairperson. Becky has been researching and creating new and creative ways to raise money for Pinchbeck. She suggested several new fundraising ideas, such as the Vendor Fair and reviving Pinchbeck’s Got Talent show. Becky also created and implemented this year’s Sunshine Fund which was a tremendous success. “The PTA and our Pinchbeck families have benefited from the money Becky and her committee have raised to support our students and PTA programming.” Becky managed all of this while still overseeing the other committees that fall under Ways & Means, such as Spirit Wear and Promotions. Becky “has the most wonderful, take charge, can-do attitude. If you want something done, she is your girl!”

**Marie Ramkey** – Marie serves on the PTA Board as the Field Day Chairperson. Not only did Marie organize and manage a successful Field Day last year but is currently coordinating volunteers and getting T-shirts for another fun-filled day at Pinchbeck. Marie has supported and volunteered at Pinchbeck for many years, whether it's in the classroom or a school program. "If you need help, she's there!"

**Alicia Shelton** – Alicia serves on the PTA Board as a Co-Chairperson for the After School Enrichment program. Most students and teachers might recognize her with a camera in her hand because she was the Yearbook Chairperson for 2 years. But this year she has spent time recruiting and marketing fun and educational programs at Pinchbeck. She has also spent many years volunteering at various school events or in the classroom...and you will probably still see her with her camera. "She appears to be involved in so many things at Pinchbeck. I see her everywhere."

**Michelle West** – Michelle serves on the PTA Board as the Chairperson for Community Service and Co-Chairperson for Cultural Arts & Reflections. Michelle has volunteered for many years at Pinchbeck and this year she has devoted much time and energy expanding the Rays Reaching Out program. Michelle has been supervising, collecting and delivering items donated monthly by our Pinchbeck family. It is a program that encourages our children to help other families in need. "She does everything simply for the love of her children and their school, and for a desire to just make things better." Michelle also volunteers in her son's classroom and coordinated volunteers for the Ray Day Carnival.

**Kelly Whitley** – Kelly serves on the PTA Board as Vice President. "The energy and enthusiasm that Kelly has demonstrated this year as V.P. is inspiring!" Kelly spent hours researching programs to ensure that events offered by the PTA, such as PERKS or the fabulous Winter Dance and Family Fitness Night, met the needs of our students, our teachers and our PTA budget. She also served as the 4<sup>th</sup> grade coordinator and the 1<sup>st</sup> grade room parent and copy mom. Kelly "is so easy going and fun to work with" and goes "above and beyond in her quest to help Pinchbeck's staff and students, both during and after school!"

**Petra Zerbst** – Petra serves on the PTA Board as the Membership Chairperson as well as a Co-Chairperson for Day & Evening PTA Programming. Petra is always willing to take on new challenges. She did a great job helping with the 4<sup>th</sup> grade Planting Project as well as inspiring others with creative morning announcements. Petra is someone who is always behind the scenes in everything our PTA does. She not only helped with the Outdoor Classroom, the Science Fair, and the Winter Dance but she can always be relied upon to help with decorating, set up, clean up or simply offering advice or a shoulder to lean on. "Petra's creativity, experience and passion for the children of Pinchbeck make her an invaluable asset to our PTA and our school."

**TO VOTE ELECTRONICALLY FOR THE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW.**

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dDJNWkVDcWM4TVhvUGx5RDNjMUJlanc6MA>