

**Howell High School Building Secretary Named
2019-2020 Howell Public Schools Support Person of the Year**

HOWELL, Mich., March 5, 2020 – On Monday, March 2, Sharin Smith, Howell High School building secretary was awarded the 2019-2020 Howell Public Schools Support Person of the Year. Smith was surprised with the award by Erin J. MacGregor, Ed.S. Howell Public Schools superintendent, and Jason Schrock, Howell High School principal. Smith’s daughter was also present for the surprise.

The high school’s main office is a busy place, yet Smith keeps a calm and friendly demeanor no matter what the situation is, or how many tasks she is juggling at one time. In each nomination that Smith received it was noted that she will always go above and beyond her job requirements to help and support students, parents, and community members. Additionally, the nominations noted that Smith can typically answer any question she is asked, and in the rare instance that she does not know the answer, she will find it and follow-up with the answer.

“Sharin is one of the first people that people coming into the high school will meet or speak with on the phone. She represents the school in such a positive manner. She is always positive, friendly, appreciative, and kind,” wrote Kelly Hann in her nomination letter.

“Sharin's role is a combination of "jack of all trades" as well as "air traffic controller" for the high school. In addition to the day-to-day operations of the school, she cares for students and parent needs and communicates with a wide variety of individuals including parents, community members, school staff,” said Schrock. “Sharin knows the number one priority of the school is to create opportunities for students to excel. She supports the needs of the students and staff so that they can have the best classroom experience. She protects the time of teachers and admin so they can do their best with students by helping students get answers to their questions and walking them through their attendance and helping them access their grades. She is also very supportive of our students and the many after school activities and clubs.”

“I am still so surprised, that I was named the Howell Public Schools Support Person of the Year. I am very thankful and humbled for even being nominated, let alone actually winning, said Smith. “ I feel so blessed to be part of such a fantastic team both here at the high school and in this district.”

The Support Person of the Year award honors an outstanding paraprofessional, general education aide, copy clerk, mentor, hall monitor, food service employee, maintenance worker, secretary, main office clerk, library services coordinator, bookkeeper or computer technician.

A committee of 22 district stakeholders comprised of teachers, support staff, parents, central office administrators, and a school board member met February 4 to consider 28 Support Person of the Year nominees. After reviewing the nominations of these outstanding individuals the committee selected Smith as this year’s winner. She will now represent Howell Public Schools in the Michigan Support Person of the Year competition.

Please join the entire Howell Public Schools community in congratulating Sharin Smith on her extraordinary work with and dedication to the students of Howell Public Schools. The Howell Board of Education will honor Smith at its March meeting.

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