

Harriett Hornet is Here to Help!
Teaching Quality Recognition Process



Purpose:

Roopville Elementary School recognizes teacher effectiveness in order to:

1. Focus attention to best practices in the standards-based classroom;
2. Cultivate a strong professional community whereby colleagues are learning from and reflecting with one another;
3. Provide an incentive to teachers who demonstrate strong instruction that enables a wide range of students to learn; and
4. Promote school and community awareness and pride in exemplary teaching quality.

Process Overview:

Continuing development is the mark of a true professional. Educators committed to attaining and remaining at the top of their profession invest much energy in staying informed in order to increase their skills and knowledge base. The opportunity to participate in a variety of professional learning occasions is vital to increase effectiveness of an educator's own ongoing learning.

Not only is it the responsibility of educators to invest in students, it is also necessary to endow one another with strategies that have proven to be effective. In Du Four, Du Four, Eaker, and Karhanek's *Whatever It Takes*, the professional learning community is named the most powerful model for equipping teachers and support staff to meet the needs and challenges of today's learner.

To expand upon the present level collegiality of Roopville Elementary School, the Harriett Hornet is Here to Help! Teaching Quality Recognition Process will highlight those individuals who exemplify the use of best practices to meet the needs of all learners. The standards-based classroom continuum criteria which encompass classroom procedures and structures, standards, lesson structure or framework, student work, differentiation, and assessment will be the guideline. During classroom observations, representations of effective teaching strategies will be noted and displayed for colleagues to view, practice, and reflect upon the implementation. After a specified time frame, those who demonstrated the practices will receive a visit from Harriett Hornet. She will be at that individual's disposal for a period of 1 hour. The instructor will also

have the opportunity to share the best practice with his/her colleagues during instructional meetings.

The goal of this process is to encourage teachers to engage in and initiate activities that reflect best practices. These strategies are concerned with collegial staff relationships, a focus on student success, continuous learning, teachers as decision makers and implementors, and new ways of supporting student learning.

This process of highlighting teacher effectiveness also models for students that teaching quality is an integral aspect of their own success in achievement.