Melissa Wilson

Washington Township School Board Meeting - May 12, 2021 – Recognition

Dear Ms. Alexander:

I am pleased to inform you that the Washington Township School Board will be recognizing your organization at our Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 for helping to make Washington Township a Superior School District. You've been nominated by one of our schools to receive the Superintendent Service Award for the 2020-2021 school year.

On behalf of The Washington Township Superintendent and School Board Members, we hope you will join us as we celebrate your exceptional efforts and individual achievements by attending the Wednesday, May 12, 2021 Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center located at 8550 Woodfield Crossing Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. The recognition portion of the meeting occurs shortly after the meeting is called to order and should only last until approximately 6:30 PM.

Please RSVP by Thursday, May 6, 2021 to Melissa Wilson at mwilson@msdwt.k12.in.us or 317.205.3332 Ext. 77200, if you plan to attend or not, to ensure proper recognition/preparation.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can provide any further information. Thank you for all you do to support our children, our community, our staff and our District.

Your Proud Superintendent,

Dr. Nikki Woodson

Melissa Wilson

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

MSD of Washington Township

8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd.

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I don't put it on Facebook much but it consumes a lot of my life:

Nora Neighborhood Ambassadors.

It started with a class on Justice and the Story of the Bible with Chet Wood.

It evolved as many of us were restless for justice and it grew hands and feet as we watched the deplorable conditions at Lakeside Pointe apartments continue to deteriorate.

And as we entered into the lives of our neighbors, we saw other ways to partner with them. When schools went virtual, we wondered how we might come alongside those who didn't yet have enough English to navigate online school.

We coloborated with many amazing people in the community. Were humbled to walk alongside those who had been doing this for years.

We learned. We made mistakes. We got a chance to try - and I mean TRY - To live the way of Jesus.

I got an email a few weeks ago letting us know that we had been chosen for an award with Washington Township schools for our work in the community. It was humbling. And scary because there are so many in our group who have poured hours of themselves into helping our neighbors navigate justice.

Who was I to accept?

But tonight Erin and I received, on behalf of the efforts of all those who have worked tirelessly, an acknowledgment of a team of people who love and care for and want to stand beside our Nora neighbors to see justice, to see the character of God manifest in our relationships with each other. Messy and imperfect, yet somehow, holy and sacred.

I want to take a moment to brag on all the people not in this picture - who spent their Friday's setting up for virtual school, cleaning at the end of the day, sitting with a child and reading or helping them do an online assignment. The teachers who would come over to the building to help a child better understand a concept. The gym teacher who brought jump ropes one sunny afternoon and lit up the world of those kids at their recess time. The school social worker who helped us with every question and connected us to the resources we needed. The volunteers who passed out blankets and food on a freezing day in December as we gathered data for a report that one of our housing leaders compiled and sent to local city officials to get ACTION! The caring people who answer the Google line to navigate maintenance requests with management and help people with funding for rent they don't have the money to pay.

There are many people in this picture. Even though you just see me, being a dork, and Erin, composed and organized as she always is, being the professional, getting the job done.

For each of them, we accepted this award tonight. Humbly. Gratefully. And for our neighbors, who have lived without heat, air conditioning, electricity, water, and a sense of safety. We continue to press on in partnership, honoring their fight and joining them in it



