



We just call our Super Lunch Hero, MARY.....

Mary Delaney is truly a true Super Lunch Hero. She has worked for the Crane School District's School Nutrition Department since 1980. She's been a Manager for the last 20 years.

Mary has been the Yuma Chapter President and was the only Certified member at Crane for 19 years.

Now, Mary isn't only a member in good standing and a past chapter president and a cafeteria manager, she's also the Grandma of 4 growing kids who live with her full time. She's of that generation that is raising her grandkids.

She's had them since the baby was a year old and the oldest was 8. They are now 5, 7, 11 and 13.

Now, we all know when we were young parents how our kids wore us out. Sometimes we were very grumpy. Imagine not being a young mother but a 63 year old Grandma! With no help at home to take some pressure off for even 5 minutes!

Well then there's Mary. Mary is what all our cafeteria managers aspire to be. She leaves all her troubles at home. When she hits the back door of the cafeteria, she turns into SUPER LUNCH HERO MARY.

She cares about each and every student in her Middle School. She can spot a troubled 7th grader and will pull her aside to find out why she's not eating and will even arrange for a private taste test to find what she likes. And it works!

She loves the "Special" kids and has devised programs for them to come into the cafeteria and be trained in serving and cleaning to help them transition into the work force.

She never hesitates to go to the counselor if she sees a student has a problem and they work together to try to solve it.

I've asked Mary to mentor staff that want to become managers because I know they will be great ones. Currently, 6 of my 9 managers worked under Mary. I wasn't wrong!

Mary is loved by her principal, the counselors, the teachers, the custodial staff and her kitchen staff.

I know Mary is my Super Lunch Hero. I think she was made for the part!

Sincerely,
Jane Johnson
Crane Schools
Nutrition Director
Yuma, Az

This super hero is a manager at Madison Camelview. You will find her at work bright and early each and every day serving up breakfast with a smile and lunch with laughter. From celebrations like Dr. Seuss's birthday serving up Green eggs and Ham to getting numerous students, parents and staff participating in her wellness plan, this manager is always in search of fun, new and exciting ideas to bring to her school. Super Patty Hunn has also been an asset to the School Nutrition Association of Arizona serving in numerous positions in her local. She has been a regular on the state board as well serving as employee/manager chair and certification/professional development chair. She has served as conference planning chair for the Professional Growth conference in Prescott and has been part of the state conference planning committee several times over. She is a true example of a school lunch super hero giving 100% ++ to everyone she comes in contact with. Her display of leadership, loyalty, compassion and commitment is something to be admired and celebrated!

Janene Smith



Yuma School District One

ONE Community Pursuing Excellence

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Darwin J. Stiffler, Ed.D., Superintendent
C. Christian Clayton, Principal
Tom Neuman, Assistant Principal

September 9, 2013

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is to nominate Ms. April Smith for the award of Super Lunch Hero. As our cafeteria manager at Otondo Elementary, she certainly is a lunch hero.

April has been a very active member of the School Nutrition Association of Arizona for many years. She has attended state conferences as well. The knowledge she brings back she shares with others to make our cafeterias run more effectively for our students, staff, parents, and community members alike.

Ms. Smith is very proactive in sharing our beautiful cafeteria with the community. Events such as Daddy/ Daughter dances from the Marine Corps Air Station here in Yuma have been in our facility with her support. Girls Scouts of America utilize our cafeteria as well as various community events sponsored by the City as well as Arizona Western College and Northern Arizona University in Yuma. She supports these events and makes sure every one has what they need.

She is always willing to work with students and families in need. She supports our PowerPlayte program with enthusiasm. April Smith is a very dedicated, loyal, success driven cafeteria manager that goes above and beyond serving quality lunches every day. To the members of the Otondo community, she truly is a Lunch Hero.

Sincerely,

C. Christian Clayton

Principal
Mary A. Otondo Elementary School
Yuma, AZ

GOVERNING BOARD

Karen Griffin

Maureen Irr

Karl Koenig

Joseph Melchionne

Barbara Foote

My Super Hero's

Many great superhero's work independently but mine are a team. They are a group of super extraordinary child nutrition workers who use superhuman powers (or so it seems) to stamp out hunger and enlighten the hearts of many. They give selflessly day after day smiling and spreading good cheer.

As you enter my kitchen at Queen Creek High School you will immediately be surrounded by ~~the~~ motivation, such as a sense of responsibility, a calling, to feed, care, and befriend the students in our populace.

This group of superhero's show extraordinary powers and abilities (or so it seems) as well as exceptional skills, these skills include a willingness to risk one's own humility by dancing to the music that is pumped in to the cafeteria on Friday's. Tell me what's better than a cool superhero?

As you get to know my superhero's you quickly realize they are built with a strong moral conviction to do what's right. This conviction guides them and leads them to risk their own safety in the service of teens and food. Such a code often includes a strong reluctance to wield the lethal weapons of fly fans and mouse traps.

Secret identity plays a huge role with my superhero's. They quietly sneak in the back door masked with hairnets, aprons and non-skid shoes, even their own children would have trouble recognizing them while they done their secret identity.

My hero's arrive each day full of super human strength, superior intelligence, enhanced senses, (or so it seems) and a heart full of love! They wash, they cut, they cook, they shred, they stir, they clean, they mix, and they serve all with a song and a smile in their hearts.

Mary McCarthy said "We are the hero of our own story". My crew is the heroes of my story.

I would love for you to meet my heroes Victorious Velma, Marvelous Marcela, Adventurous Alice, Joyous Jenny, Super Sandra, Expert Evelia, Electric Elvira, Brave Bettina, Joyful Jennifer and last but not least Trusty Teresa. A manager couldn't dream of a better group of super heroes!

Joanie Burnap

Manager Queen Creek High School

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Deb Drysdale, Principal

August 30, 2013

A Super Lunch Hero

I would like to introduce to you a Super Lunch Hero from George Washington Carver School in Yuma, Arizona. Maria Conde is our cafeteria manager and has served our students without fail or hesitation for the last 12 years.

Carver School is an amazing little school in the middle of the Carver Park Neighborhood in Yuma's historic northend. The children who attend our little school from the neighborhood live in relentless poverty. They deal daily with shelter, safety, and hunger issues. But not when they are at school. Thanks to our Super Lunch Hero, Mrs. Conde, our students receive breakfast, lunch, and snacks for free. Beyond the delicious food on their trays, they are also served up a healthy portion of love, nurturing, and care. Mrs. Conde and her staff greet the children daily with joy and a call out to each one by name. She knows who is sad, who is happy, and who is not feeling well that day. In her way, she delivers to our students that which is missing at home. And sometimes that missing piece is simply a hug, a smile, or a reminder to mind your table manners.

Mrs. Conde is an amazing role model for our students. Through the Housing America Project, Maria Conde and her children built the home they now live in. Each day after a long day in the kitchen she would trade in her apron for a carpenter's belt and work on the construction of her home. Watching her keep up this work schedule for a whole year gave me a glimpse at the amazing character and strength that she brings to our cafeteria every day. These same traits keep her positive and proud, genuine and congenial, gracious and good.

As long as she is in charge of our cafeteria no child goes hungry, no child goes unnoticed, and no child goes un-nurtured. She is our Super Lunch Hero and is hereby unconditionally nominated by a very grateful principal.

Very truly yours,


Deb Drysdale

Principal, George Washington Carver School

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