



The City of Unalaska Recognizes
Wilma Adams
Of the Unalaska City School District for going the
“Extra Mile”

Mrs. Adams has been a teacher in Unalaska for 39 years. Mrs. Adams, who will retire at the end of this school year, has taught 3rd grade from 1982-1990 (8 years) and Kindergarten from 1990-2021 (31 years). Over her teaching career in Unalaska, she has taught approximately 1088 students.

Mrs. Adams is a natural leader who loves her job. She radiates passion and joy and is often smiling, laughing, and having fun alongside her students. She has the amazing ability to look after all the children and supporting staff. She will listen to others and problem solve if there are challenges that people are trying to overcome. Mrs. Adams works hard and never expects recognition. She advocates for students and staff. She has an incredibly challenging job and has an incredible ability to teach five-year-olds how to read, and she makes it look easy. Mrs. Adams has also taught the children of previous students that she had in kindergarten, including her grandchildren.

Mrs. Adams is the prime example of an extra miler, not only for her teaching skills but by teaching her students to swim. Swimming is a life-saving skill that Mrs. Adams was committed to teaching all students in grades K-4. Mrs. Adams has had students in kindergarten who have grown up to accomplish amazing things. She holds all students to high behavioral and academic expectations and ensures that they reach their highest potential. However, there is much more that Mrs. Adams does to contribute to her community and change the lives of students and adults. Others look to her as a role model. She leads by example through her positive attitude.



The City of Unalaska Recognizes
John Conwell
Of the Unalaska City School District for going the
“Extra Mile”

John Conwell has been with Unalaska City School District for 24 years. Mr. Conwell, who will retire at the end of this school year, has been part of the staff at the Unalaska City School District since 1997. He first served as the Assistant Principal from 1997-2001 (4 years), the 5th-12th grade Principal from 2001-2007 (6 years), and the Superintendent from 2007-2021 (14 years).

During Mr. Conwell’s fourteen years as superintendent, UCSD has added to its growing list of accolades. The U.S. News and World Report Magazine 2010 Bronze Medal for America’s Best High Schools. The prestigious 2011 National Blue Ribbon School Award. In December 2012, Eagle’s View Elementary was nominated for the 2012 National Blue Ribbon School Award. Eagle’s View Elementary was a 2013 Blue Ribbon Finalist.

John Conwell received recognition from his peers and was Named the 2018 Alaska Superintendent of the Year by The Alaska Superintendents Association (ASA). The Superintendent of the Year program, now in its 31st year, pays tribute to a school system’s top leader who exemplifies effectiveness, knowledge, leadership, ethics, and commitment.

John is a dedicated professional committed to the district and his colleagues, but most importantly, he truly cares about the education, success, and well-being of each child in Unalaska. Superintendent Conwell’s sphere of influence does not, however, stop within Unalaska, nor does his advocacy on behalf of the school district end within the community. Mr. Conwell is no stranger to the halls of the State Capitol building in Juneau, regularly educating the Legislature on behalf of the interests of students and teachers across the state. Mr. Conwell is considered a mentor to many and his constant encouragement has sustained many educators along their path.