

## **Ritenour Announces 2009 Teacher, Employee of the Year**

**April 16, 2009** – The Ritenour School District has selected **Tonya Ryan** of Kratz Elementary as the district Diamond Circle Teacher of the Year and Administrative Center Application Support Specialist **Sharon Ellis** as the Diamond Circle Employee of the Year. The district also named eight other teachers as Diamond Circle recipients for their respective schools. Diamond Circle Awards are given to teachers and staff that best exemplify the district's commitment to quality education and service. Awardees are chosen each year by colleagues at their buildings.

Ryan is a fifth-grade teacher at Kratz Elementary School. Now in her third year with the district, Ryan is known by her students for making learning fun and for her passionate, enthusiastic and fun loving personality.

"Tonya is an amazing teacher and never gives up on students," said Kratz Principal Dorlita Adams. "She and her students have a lot of fun in the classroom, too. She uses many different teaching styles and finds a way to reach every child. She is an exceptional teacher and always goes the extra mile for her students."

Ellis has worked at the district's Administrative Center since 2002. As Application Support Specialist, she oversees the district's student data management system. Ellis is honored for her excellent customer service and outstanding attention to detail.

"Sharon has a true passion for her job, works well with others and ensures the student data system is functioning properly on a daily basis," said Ray Loehr, Ritenour's manager of information systems. "She works with every building in the district and shares her knowledge with others to better serve students, parents and staff members. She is truly a valuable asset to our district."

The following teachers are also being honored as their school's 2009 Diamond Circle Awardees:

**Dori Busby**, Buder Elementary  
**Stacy Shipman**, Iveland Elementary  
**Tonya Ryan**, Kratz Elementary\*  
**Nancy Carrow**, Marion Elementary  
**Meghan McNulty**, Marvin Elementary  
**Mollie Bolton**, Wyland Elementary  
**Brad Wallace**, Hoech Middle  
**Tara Murray**, Ritenour Middle  
**Krisstin Swyres**, Ritenour High School

*\*Teacher of the year*

The Ritenour School District is also recognizing two teachers with special awards:

**Jessica Snoberger**, a seventh grade teacher at Hoech Middle School, was selected for the First Class Teacher Award. This award recognizes the district's most outstanding first-year elementary or secondary educator.

**Anne Becherer**, a Special School District teacher at Marion Elementary School, was selected for the Make A Difference Award. This award acknowledges a staff member for their excellence in working with Ritenour students with diverse needs.

All awardees will be recognized at the district's annual Honors Dinner on April 30, 2009.

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