

ONEIDA SCHOOL DISTRICT #351

Caring & Educating.

Dear Oneida School Board,

It is a pleasure to present Erma Hill as our Oneida School District Employee of the month. Erma is a legend. Erma has been an employee for the District for about 45 years.... I'd like to be more precise, but our records are not clear – but we are sure it was during the mid to late 70's. She was first hired as a bus driver. She said back then we had real winters – lots of snow. She said there were times that she had a student posted at windows on the bus so they could tell her if she was staying on the road. One particularly bad snowstorm, she made the scary run, only to get to the school on the other side of the mountain to be told that school was closed. So, she turned around and made the trip back in the horrible snowstorm.

In the early 80's, Erma started being a classroom para. She taught with many different teachers. She has taught in every classroom at Stone... even on the stage. For the past many years she has taught kindergarten. She states that she has loved every class she has taught – they all have been wonderful. She has seen lots of broken legs and arms but they have all seemed to be none the worse for wear. She said as she looks back she does not have any bad memories. She has loved every minute of the service she has given.

In the past five years that I have worked with Erma, I have learned a few things about her. She knows the history of Stone better than anyone. She can tell you about every family that has lived and is living in the Holbrook/Stone area. During the time I have been with her, I have not heard her speak poorly of anyone. She does not gossip. She shows deep compassion toward all. I have never heard her complain. At the first of the year when they were told they had to wear masks all day long at school, her response was, “well my ancestors were asked to leave their homes and walk 2000 miles and live in a desert, so I guess I can't complain about having to wear a mask.

Erma has made a difference in the lives of many children. She has given them a strong foundation of self-confidence and academic learning. All that know Erma has nothing but good to say about her. She has been made immortal in this life because of the positive impact she has made in the lives of the Stone Elementary School Students. We deeply give thanks to a wonderful person who has served so well and given so much to serve our students.

Sincerely,



Rich Moore PhD.
Superintendent
Oneida School District