

Leah Cox nominates Julie McFaddin for Extra Mile Award

My teacher Ms. McFaddin is highly qualified for the Extra Mile Award. In fact she is the best candidate for this award. She goes above and beyond to make activities that are engaging and lots of fun. She has high expectations for each of her students. She challenges 5th graders to be inquirers, which is one of the IB Learner Profile Traits. For example, in fifth grade an end of the year assessment that we do is PYP Exhibition. If we ask Ms. McFaddin a question such as "I need help narrowing down my topic of Unity and I have no idea how to do it?" She may answer in a question like this "Well, I am not an expert in this topic and I can't read your mind so my question to you is 1. What is your goal/message to get across and 2. What other ideas within that topic are you familiar with or want to know more about?" In this instance she is empowering you to think beyond your comfort zone and is challenging you to think critically and to be an independent thinker. Which is a TDS trans disciplinary skill.

This year I have had a hard time with math. I have asked Ms. McFaddin if she could stay after school with me and tutor me. Every time I asked she responded yes, continuously, without hesitation. She has taken math, my least favorite subject and transformed it into a subject that I began to like. That means so much to me especially because sometimes I feel as though I am the only one who doesn't know/understand the concept that is taught. When she helps me I realize I am not the only one that needs help.

Ms. McFaddin is lots of fun. For example at the fifth grade Tybee trip during our free time she noticed that our class was separated. So she joined us together and said "We should play volleyball!". So everybody joined and we played, TOGETHER. That was one of the many times I saw Ms. McFaddin enjoying and having a good time. Simply said Ms. Julie McFaddin is encouraging, motivating, inspiring, caring, intelligent and kind. There are so many things I can say about this truly amazing teacher. But we simply do not have enough time for that it would take forever! Ms. McFaddin, Chosen, Extra Mile Award 2017.