

USD #377 Atchison County Community Schools News Release



Effingham, KS 66023
(913) 833-5050

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND SUPPORT STAFFER OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED

At a staff breakfast Friday morning, March 2, 2007, Principal Terry Slattery announced that Suzy Purdy, Middle School and Elementary Art teacher is the 2007 Elementary Teacher of the Year. Esther Willis, Early Childhood Preschool paraeducator, was named Support Staffer of the Year. All certified and classified elementary staff members had an opportunity to vote in this third annual recognition. Both recipients received a pin and flowers. Engraved statues will be presented at a future board meeting.

Suzy Purdy has taught art for USD 377 for 23 years. In that time, she has earned the respect and admiration of staff, students and parents alike. Students who leave our schools have not only had art, but have had a great art appreciation education as well. She brings out the creative gifts each student has and they do amazing things!



Esther Willis started her career with NEKESC in 1991. Her days are filled with meeting the needs of some very special students. Judy Denton called Esther, "a teacher, a mother, a disciplinarian, a toilet trainer, a counselor, a playground coordinator, a giver of TLC, a data collector, a listener, and a voice for all students."



Congratulations to these two deserving ladies!