

WOODVILLE PREK – 8 SCHOOL

Home of the Mustangs

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It is with great honor that I write this letter of recommendation for Kenneth Edwards for the Glenn-Howell Distinguished Educator of the Year Award. While I have only had the pleasure of working with Mr. Edwards for a few months, in that short time, it is clear to me that he is an inspiring educator. Inspiring all around him, including both his students and coworkers.

Beyond being knowledgeable in his content area, he utilizes a variety of teaching strategies to engage students of all ability levels and varying backgrounds. He establishes connections with his students to meet them where they are, and bring them to where they need to be. His colleagues know how wonderful he is as evidenced by him winning the nomination for Woodville's Glenn-Howell Distinguished Educator of the Year Award.

Mr. Edwards has brought several successful and innovative programs to the students of Woodville. These include the garden and greenhouse programs as well as a school farm that includes goats, chickens, quail, pheasants and rabbits. Students run a school store under his guidance. The store helps students provide healthy, sustainable food options for the Woodville Community providing poultry and garden products available to the community at affordable prices.

This summer, Mr. Edwards (and his students) won a 5-year grant from the Florida Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquaculture to provide a recirculating Aquaculture System at our school. This system will allow our students to grow and harvest different breeds of fish as well as a variety of plants and vegetables. The application for the grant was written by Mr. Edwards AND his students. The Aquaculture program is a huge opportunity for our students and makes his program the "face" of the Florida Department of Agriculture Division of Aquaculture. This system integrates seamlessly with the other programs he has put in place.

Mr. Edwards is a team player, goes above and beyond what is expected and required of him and volunteers for things outside of his regular duties. It is not uncommon to see him at the school on the weekends taking care of the farm. He is the first to make coworkers and students laugh, or to offer a shoulder to cry on when needed. Students beg to be placed in his class. I whole-heartedly believe Mr. Edwards would make an outstanding Glenn-Howell Distinguished Educator of the Year.

Sincerely,

Paige Loggins

Assistant Principal

"No person shall on the basis of sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, color, pregnancy, disability, military status or genetic information be denied employment, receipt of services, access to or participation in school activities or programs if qualified to receive such services, or otherwise be discriminated against or placed in a hostile environment in any educational program or activity including those receiving federal financial assistance, except as provided by law." No person shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any other youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society."