



RAVE Team Nominee

Team Name: Francis Scott Key Elementary School Special Education Team
Liliana Manzone, Suzanne Kelley, Sheila Maffei, Erin Lyon, Christine Fitzpatrick, Patricia MacDonald, David Cronan, Paula Martin, Adrienne Hill

Department/School: Francis Scott Key Elementary School

Why are you nominating this team?

The special education programs, particularly the special day classes (ITALC & SLI) and Inclusion, at Francis Scott Key are known to be one of the best in our school district. Their strong reputation could be validated by our special education department, legal department, and special education parents. For over seven years, we have had some of the most difficult cases and our clients, students and parents, have always been very pleased with the services they received. Their success is largely due to the high quality special education teachers and support staff, who are totally committed in providing the best for our children with special needs. This special education team deserves to be recognized by the Superintendent and the School Board for its relentless effort in their exemplary practices.

What are some of the positive qualities that distinguish this team's work?

The FS Key Special Ed Team works collaboratively to provide high quality special education services to over 57 Special Ed students at school. The team meets regularly to discuss exemplary practices and share ideas. They often share their resources and provide strong support to one another. On many occasions, they shared their paraprofessional staff and covered classes for IEP meetings, etc. The most positive thing about this team is that they stay enthusiastic about their job and treat each student and family with dignity and respect.

Please give us a specific example of something that this team did/does that you would like to recognize:

One of the special education teachers literally saved a life of a Special Ed student last year. The student choked during feeding and turned pale and finally stopped breathing. The teacher took over and successfully brought the student back to breathing through CPR before the paramedic arrived.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about why you think this team should be recognized?

In my 16 years of school administration, this is the best special education team I have ever worked with. And because of them, we continue to receive referrals and transfers from other schools.

Nominated By: Supervisor