



Haddonfield School District 2022 Governor's Educator of the Year or Educational Support Person of the Year



On December 6, 2022, school administrators surprised **Barbara O'Shaughnessy** with the news that she had been named **Educational Support Person of the Year** for Central Elementary Schools.

L to R Superintendent Chuck Klaus, classroom teacher Dana Selbach, Principal Shannon Simkus, *O'Shaughnessy*, Assistant Superintendent Gino Priolo.

BARBARA O'SHAUGHNESSY Educational Assistant CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

In October, school districts throughout New Jersey began soliciting nominations for the **Governor's Educator of the Year** program. Parents, students and even other district employees were encouraged to submit nominations for either a teacher or educational support person whose performance has been outstanding.

We received more than 200 nominations, a testament to the fact that Haddonfield School District has a large number of excellent teachers and staff. Committees were formed, one for each school, consisting of teachers, parents, students, board members and administrators who met to review all submissions. Finally they narrowed the field to nine talented and dedicated individuals, including Barbara!

Here are just a few of the statements made on her nomination forms:

Barb has served the district for 27 years. In recent years, she has been in Kindergarten. "Mrs. O" is calm, patient, and never judges. She is the person they go to when they skin a knee, can't get their backpack zipped, or just need a little TLC.

Meeting the children's learning and emotional needs is her number one concern. She comes early and stays late because that is when we need her most. She is always willing to do whatever is needed!