



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Poway Unified Announces its 2017 PUSD Classified Employees of the Year**

### ***Bridgette Padilla and Linda Farmer Receive School District Honors***

The Poway Unified School District is proud to announce that Bridgette Padilla, Sunset Hills Elementary School Administrative Assistant, and Linda Farmer, Finance Department Budget Analyst, have been chosen as the Poway Unified School District Classified Employees of the Year for 2017.

A committee of District and site representatives selected the two District Classified Employees of the Year (one representing school sites and one representing district departments) based on work performance, contributions to the school district, and community service.

The San Diego County Office of Education also sponsors a Classified Employee Recognition Program, honoring members of the classified service for all of San Diego County. This year's Poway Unified nomination for the county-wide recognition is Bridgette Padilla.

### **Bridgette Padilla** Administrative Assistant, *Sunset Hills Elementary School*

Bridgette is Sunset Hills' biggest fan and cheerleader. She encourages everyone to adopt the *No Excuses* philosophy and truly believes in Universal Achievement for all students. She does whatever it takes to ensure that all staff has access to tools to make a difference in a child's life. For example, she keeps her cell phone on her 24/7 to help teachers in finding substitutes for last minute

emergencies. She assists staff and PTA/ Foundation/ Dad's Club leaders to ensure that all of their events and extracurricular activities go through without a glitch.



Bridgette is a role model and leads the office staff. She develops effective systems to handle all of the numerous duties that need to be accomplished, on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Her calm demeanor and the way she treats people in all situations is commendable. Bridgette was selected to be on a district-wide team to look at the role of the Administrative Assistant at the elementary level. She also represents the classified staff on the Sunset Hills Foundation and is always available to answer any questions regarding correct forms and reports.

Her encouragement and enthusiasm to promote a positive school culture goes beyond her job performance. She is often seen giving positive "Character Cards" and "Caught Being TRRFFC Slips" for students and classrooms that are showing good character.

From maintaining the school website and calendar to troubleshooting all over campus, Bridgette does it all with passion and a smile on her face!

**Linda Farmer** Budget Analyst, *Finance*

Linda's colleagues describe her as very helpful, knowledgeable, and committed. She is always willing to assist her coworkers. When the PeopleSoft software was implemented in the District, Linda was at the forefront during the

numerous PeopleSoft trainings and was instrumental in developing a training package and conducting a District intro training for sites and non-finance personnel.



She loves providing assistance when schools and departments have budget questions. Principals are impressed with Linda's outstanding customer service. Linda is a great resource of information regarding Attendance, Instructional Minutes, Budget and PeopleSoft. She has also done an excellent job in reviewing requisitions for unnecessary expenditures.

Linda is also committed to giving back to the community through her involvement in numerous organizations. Linda spent 6 years on the Board for the Poway School Employees Association as Vice President representing classified staff. She volunteers for the Escondido Humane Society and at Lions, Tigers, and Bears East County. Linda and her Mom commit random acts of kindness whenever they find military, police or fire personnel in uniform by buying their meals. From Poway High Marching Band to Girls Softball to Sunday School, Linda has been a familiar face, selflessly giving her time.

## 2017 Poway Unified School Site and Department Classified Employees of the Year

The following is a list of all PUSD school site and department classified employees of the year. These finalists are outstanding representatives of the high caliber of staff that is characteristic of Poway Unified School District classified employees.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Site</b>
Rebecca Hernandez	Abraxas
George Haughelstine	Adobe Bluffs
Maritza Alicea	Alternative Programs
Prudence Hernandez	Bernardo Heights
Lidia Vandavelde	Black Mountain
Sharon Hill	Canyon View
Yoenda Dornan	Chaparral
Sarah Santa Croce	Creekside
Julianne Phillips	Career, Technical, Adult Ed
Subha Basu	Deer Canyon
Louise Titlow	Del Norte
Gabriela Olszewska	Del Sur
Linda Farmer	Finance
Anne Samaras	Garden Road
Jan Main	Highland Ranch
Gene Nelson	Information Technology
Vicki Creed	Learning Support Services
Gordon Plotzke	Maintenance & Operations
Oscar Navarro	Meadowbrook
Debra Nunez	Mesa Verde
Sarah Cockrell	Midland
Stephanie Friedl	Monterey Ridge
Kristin Burlingame	Morning Creek
Nancy Hall	Mt. Carmel
Gigi Hotaling	Oak Valley
Susan Roll	Painted Rock
Lorena Leonard	Pomerado
Mary Morpeth	Poway High
Jolie Napier-Vea	Personnel Support Services
Cindy Long	Rancho Bernardo
Pat Torio	Rolling Hills
Eileen Tucker	Shoal Creek
Kathy Meyer	Special Education
Alexis McGruder	Stone Ranch
Cindy Hicks	Student Support Services
Joan Serrano	Sundance
Bridgette Padilla	Sunset Hills
Cheri Kellhofer	Tierra Bonita
Martin Koontz	Transportation
Kaleigh Soule	Turtleback
Margo Selensky	Twin Peaks
Niurka Diaz	Valley
Susan Hartman	Westview
Mary Cader	Westwood
Jim Fitzgerald	Willow Grove