



Media Release

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Edwin Parr Nominee: Janelle Dentinger



Congratulations to Grade 5 École St. Gérard teacher Janelle Dentinger on being nominated for the Edwin Parr Award. Each year the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) honours six outstanding first-year teachers across the province with the Edwin Parr Teaching Award. School boards may nominate one first-year Kindergarten to Grade 12 teacher who has taught in an Alberta school jurisdiction, which is also a member of the ASBA.

Originally from the Peace River Region she attained her Bachelor's in Education through the Grande Prairie Regional College. According to her peers, Dentinger is a very caring young person who creates amazing relationships with students, families, and staff members. She coached the Grade 7 Boys Volleyball team, helped out with the Ski Club and other activities around the school.

Upon hearing about her nomination, Dentinger expressed her initial surprise at being selected.

"I was kinda in shock! I felt really honoured to be recognized and was really surprised," she said. "It was very humbling to hear and I'm thankful for this opportunity."

She described her school as a welcoming and compassionate community of learners at École St. Gérard.

"We are a big family, if anyone ever needs help, there's always someone lending a helping hand and you are never afraid to ask for help," she said.

She reflected upon her first year as a teacher and offered the following advice for new teachers.

"The fear of the unknown, not knowing what to expect. My practicum helped, but you really don't know until you walk into the classroom and experience it for yourself," she said. "You can't be afraid to ask questions and you need to be flexible when challenges arise."



The administration at École St. Gérard went into detail about why they selected Dentinger as a nominee.

“In the classroom, Ms. Dentinger showcases confidence and provides an individualized, high standard of education for all her students,” said École St. Gérard Principal, Michel Lemay. “She creates great relationships with students and we are extremely blessed to have her as a part of our school community.”

The Grande Prairie & District Catholic Schools Administration and Board Chair reflected these opinions as well.

“We are proud of the excellent work that Janelle has accomplished in her first year as a teacher within our District. We couldn’t be happier to see her drive and compassion help students, reflecting our beliefs and values. Congratulations Janelle!” said Superintendent of Schools, Karl Germann.

“Every year we select an Edwin Parr nominee from a variety of highly qualified first year candidates. We feel confident that Ms. Dentinger reflects the goals and vision of our District and are humbled to have such amazing teachers within our organization,” said Board Chair, Michael Ouellette.

Congratulations to Janelle Dentinger on her nomination and good luck at the Provincial Edwin Parr in the coming months!