

Rotary Club Presents Jensen Elementary English Learner Teacher With Hero In Education Award
Annie Jordan receives the 2017 Ken Lepley Memorial Hero in Education Award for her advocacy, altruism and leadership for students and families in the Urbandale Community School District

URBANDALE, Iowa – August 28, 2017 – The [Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines](#) recently celebrated the determined advocacy, commendable altruism and inspiring leadership of [Jensen Elementary](#) English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher, Annie Jordan, by presenting her with the 2017 Ken Lepley Memorial Hero in Education Award as well as \$500 to use toward professional development or school supplies. The annual Hero in Education Award is presented to an educator who has gone above and beyond the responsibilities of a professional educator.



Annie Jordan receives the 2017 Ken Lepley Memorial Hero in Education Award from Committee Chairman Dr. Roger D. Nyberg, Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.

“We are so fortunate to have Annie on staff. She provides outstanding opportunities to our students and is a leader among her fellow staff. We are better because she is a member of our team,” said Urbandale Community School District Coordinator of Student Services Dr. Keri Schlueter.

Since 2011, Jordan has supported students, staff and families in the Urbandale Community School District (UCSD) by demonstrating the power of positive leadership in order to continually improve herself and those around her. When faced with a challenge, Jordan’s peers can always count on her keen focus for finding solutions and commitment to enriching the lives of those around her in order to serve as their collective compass for finding paths toward bringing about positive change.

“This recognition is a true testament to the strong ELL team in Urbandale. It is because of the compassionate, skilled teachers that have mentored me during my seven years of teaching that I am able to make a difference in students’ lives,” said Jordan.

Over the past six years, Jordan has helped ELL students and families overcome adversity, build engagement and increase achievement by organizing tutoring for ELL students to receive extra support on their school work; implementing monthly ELL family nights; and coordinating a district-wide ELL clothing drive that involves the solicitation and collection of donations, the organization of volunteers and countless hours of sorting and organizing donations—all of which take place outside of the school day and throughout the summer. In addition, Jordan is a model teacher, which means she is a leader among her peers, by serving on committees, planning professional development and modeling excellence in her profession. Jordan helps staff at Jensen Elementary and throughout the UCSD to better meet the diverse needs of the learners they serve.

UCSD congratulates Jordan on receiving this well-deserved award and is grateful for the countless ways in which she supports Urbandale students, staff and families. To learn more about how Urbandale is creating learning environments that more fully engage, challenge and motivate students, visit: UrbandaleSchools.com and follow on Twitter [@UrbandaleSchool](https://twitter.com/UrbandaleSchool).

About Rotary

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 1.2 million Rotary members in 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary clubs have been serving communities worldwide for more than a century. The first Rotary club was founded in Chicago in 1905. To learn more about the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines, visit <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/1664>

About Urbandale Community School District

The Urbandale Community School District includes portions of Des Moines and Urbandale, Iowa. The District serves over 3,900 students in six elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The Urbandale District supports an increasingly diverse student population where 47 languages are spoken. Building on the existing foundation of excellence in education, Urbandale is transforming education throughout the District. By implementing innovative [Quality/Continual Improvement](#) strategies that create learning environments that more fully engage, challenge and motivate students, Urbandale is taking transformation from theory into practice. Urbandale prepares students for becoming lifelong learners and is a school district that brings learning to life for everyone. To learn more, visit: UrbandaleSchools.com and follow on Twitter [@UrbandaleSchool](https://twitter.com/UrbandaleSchool).

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