

# **Chris Thorne**

## **Golden Apple Award**

### **February 18, 2008**

Chris Thorne began volunteering at Sterling Elementary School when her daughter, Katie, started kindergarten there.

First- and second-grade teacher Lora Sterling spoke for school staff in saying it was clear Mrs. Thorne wasn't going to limit her school involvement to parking lot drop-offs and pickups. She said, "Chris' vision for her daughter's education took her down a different path as she realized all the tasks essential for one successful day of schooling her daughter and the other students at Sterling Elementary."

Mrs. Thorne started out volunteering in her daughter's classroom by assisting the teacher and helping with math game centers, art projects, puppet shows and plays. Soon she was volunteering in the library, helping school staff with technology, working with the Title 1 program and assisting with schoolwide Reading is Fundamental activities. She has served as president of the school's parent-teacher association, and has been a successful advocate for new playground equipment at the school. As a local AmeriCorps representative, she was active in opening the school for various community activities.

Mrs. Sterling said, "There is not one member of the Sterling Elementary staff that does not depend on Chris for long-term and last-minute projects. She is always available to help with what comes up. She knows what activities are scheduled, when and where for each day of the week. She probably helped set up at least some portion of each activity anyway. Chris is an expert on Sterling Elementary, making her an excellent resource for everyone."

We, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education, are proud to recognize Chris Thorne for her dedication and countless hours of hard work spent making Sterling Elementary a better school for everyone in the building.