Linda Harris Golden Apple Award March 3, 2008

Linda Harris is a special services aide at Chapman Elementary School, but she's known for her help to the entire school.

"She frequently works through her breaks and lunch period assisting other teachers in getting assignments ready, not only for the students she serves, but also for students in the general education classes," said special services teacher Lorraine Hipbshman.

Mrs. Harris can be counted on to do whatever is needed, whether it's going the extra mile for students or the more mundane yet vital tasks that keep a school running, like copying, creating math manipulatives or keeping the staff lounge in order.

In the special services department, Mrs. Harris is committed to student achievement. She has a knack for pinpointing a student's learning challenges and she researches ways to help overcome those difficulties. A Chapman teacher said, "I do not know anyone who cares more and works harder for the kids than Linda. She constantly is adapting what she teaches to find ways to reach the students she serves. She has the most amazing work ethic and dedication to what she does."

Mrs. Harris attended a workshop on dyslexia of her own accord to learn how to better serve a student. She also has taken students on a field trip to the Homer Harbor, and to her home to teach them how to make jam.

Chapman Principal Sharon Conley said, "Linda gives 110 percent and is an emotional support for our teachers and her principal. Linda tries to find the positive qualities in everyone. She is a spontaneous giver and shares eagerly. Linda leads by example, and as a result we are all enriched and inspired to do our best."

We, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education, are proud to recognize Linda Harris for her service to all students at Chapman Elementary School.