



NEWS

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Carpenter School Selects Grade 5 Students for New Civil Behavior Recognition

To help reinforce Park Ridge-Niles School District 64's civil behavior goals, Carpenter School this spring decided to participate for the first time in a program sponsored by the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) to recognize students that help to create a positive environment in their schools.

According to Principal Marcy Canel, Carpenter's fifth grade staff selected four students from that grade to consider for the IPA award: Oliwia Burda, Ryan Petrick, Elaine Smith and Erin Straka. "Each of these students really stand out in modeling the traits of respect and responsibility that are at the heart of our civil behavior program in District 64," Dr. Canel said. "Simply stated, these four are all positive persons to know, which is one of the characteristics the IPA wants to highlight," she added.

But finding a way to select just one proved challenging. "Because all four students are equally outstanding, to pick a representative from Carpenter the only fair way in the end was to draw one name randomly from a hat," Dr. Canel noted. In that way, Erin Straka was selected to attend the IPA Student Recognition Breakfast for the North Cook Region this month, along with Dr. Canel and her parents, Colleen and Paul Straka.

"We're so proud of Erin and her three classmates for being quiet but powerful examples for younger students as well as other fifth graders in how to be caring members of our Carpenter community," she added.

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