

“Friend of Rural Education” Award

Charlotte Smith has served the Missouri City 56 School District for over twenty years as a School Board member. She has been the President of the Board for nearly all of those twenty years of service.

Charlotte retired from the North Kansas City School District after serving thirty years as a school psychologist. She has worked tirelessly to bring attention to and expand opportunities for mental health services for students. She has degrees and certifications in Special Education (Emotionally disturbed/behavioral disorders & intellectual disabilities), school psychology and school counseling.

Charlotte chairs the Board Policy Committee for Missouri City. In her role, she carefully analyzes policy with great care, research and a focus on the welfare of children. She has served as the Missouri delegate to the National Association of School Psychologists, a member of the NASP Government and Professional Relations Committee, as President of the Missouri Association of School Psychologists and currently serves as a member of the MASP Board of Directors and the MASP PR/Advocacy Committee.

Charlotte is also a PREPARE trainer for the NASP and has presented many workshops addressing school violence prevention and response. She received the Missouri School Psychologist of the Year Award in 2010. Charlotte has also served on the Planning team for Creating Community Solutions Kansas City and was part of the National Dialogue on Mental Health called for by President Obama.

She started the Missouri City Parents and Educators for Responsible Choices (PERC) group which focuses on developing and implementing strategies to keep Missouri City youth, families and the community safe and drug free. She also was instrumental in the creation of the Northland Coalition of Community Task Forces of Clay, Platte and Ray counties and serves as the Vice President for Advocacy. Other service roles include: Board of Directors for Hillcrest Hope Housing and Support, involvement in the “Rural School Libraries Anchoring Community Mental Health Literacy Program and a participant in two Mental Health Summits aimed at strengthening school mental health services across the state.

Charlotte has been referred to by Superintendent Jay Jackson as “the most child-centered and pro-education person that one can imagine.” A fellow Board member shares that “it is not the schooling and qualifications that make her the person she is, but rather it is the heart and the love that she feels for all children that makes her the right person to receive this award.”

It is our privilege to present Mrs. Charlotte Smith with the MARE/MO K-8 “Friend of Rural Education” Award for 2017-2018! Congratulations!

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