



MEDIA CONTACT:
Nicole Noonan
Marketing & Community Coordinator
(920) 788-7900
nnoonan@kimberly.k12.wi.us

425 S. WASHINGTON STREET
COMBINED LOCKS WI 54113

(920) 788-7900
FAX (920) 788-7919

www.kimberly.k12.wi.us

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAM BASS RECOGNIZED FOR 17 YEARS OF CHILD ADVOCACY WITHIN THE KIMBERLY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kimberly, Wis. – July 11, 2018 – Sam Bass, a volunteer with the [Kimberly Area School District \(KASD\)](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us), was presented with a Bert Grover Child Advocacy Certificate of Recognition for 2018 from the [Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators Inc. \(WASDA\)](http://www.wasda.org). Bass was presented with the Certificate of Recognition at KASD's July 9, 2018, Board of Education meeting.

The WASDA Board of Directors recognizes people that have exhibited extraordinary dedication to the cause of child advocacy in Wisconsin.

Bass was recognized for over 17 years of service as a volunteer in the District. He is a long-term reading tutor through Sunrise Elementary School's Retired Senior Volunteer Program. He regularly comes to the school to listen to first graders read, help them write and gives them unconditional support.



Sam Bass (center) was presented with a Bert Grover Child Advocacy Certificate of Recognition for 2018. He is pictured with the Kimberly Area School District Board of Education and Anne Steffen, a first grade teacher at Sunrise Elementary School.

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While serving as a positive influence for students at Sunrise Elementary School, he has helped multiple generations of students develop a love of reading and writing, two critical skills that students need in order to reach their potential in school and life.

When asked about his favorite aspects of working with students, Bass fondly reflected on both the reading tutor program and a puppet show initiative he used to be involved with at the school. He noted that first graders are completely honest and that they have told him stories that have made him laugh many times over the years.

“Sam makes the kids he works with feel valued by being a kind listener who shares abundant amounts of laughter and positive praise with the students,” said Amy Stenz, a first grade teacher at Sunrise. “Our school believes that generational connections help students gain confidence in their academics and their overall sense of self.”

Some of the children that Bass tutors can struggle in the classroom and with literacy. He serves as another encouraging adult in their life. “Sam always has something positive to say about the kids he works with,” added Stenz.

The Certificate of Recognition for Child Advocacy is a symbol of appreciation for the ongoing support Sam Bass has made on behalf of children in the Kimberly Area School District and Wisconsin.

About the Kimberly Area School District

The Kimberly Area School District is a progressive public school district committed to providing the best possible education available to students. Its responsibility is to help lead the way in developing well-rounded students and future citizens. The District wants every student to be given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts and co-curricular activities. It encompasses approximately 17 square miles and serves over 5,100 students in one 4K center, four elementary schools (5K-4), two intermediate schools (5-6), one middle school (7-8) and one high school (9-12). To learn more about the Kimberly Area School District, call (920)788-7900 or visit www.kimberly.k12.wi.us.