

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Kathy McCutcheon Named Teacher of the Year

Charlottesville, Virginia (3/17/2021) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is happy to report Kathy McCutcheon, early childhood special educator and the Racquets for Reading!!! Scholastic Book Club grant coordinator, at Cumberland Elementary School in Cumberland County, was recently named 2020 Teacher of the Year.



With 30 years of teaching experience, Kathy joined Cumberland Elementary in 2017 as a co-teacher in the preschool inclusion classroom. In 2019 she became Lead Teacher for pre-kindergarten. She is known for running her classroom with love and dedication, guiding each child toward their potential. In addition to her classroom responsibilities, Kathy also participates in the Assistive Technology team, Special Education division team, Inclusive Practices team, Federal Program Advisory Committee, Cumberland Elementary School Special Education team and School Leadership

team. She also attends tee-ball and soccer games as well as other sporting events to show her support for her students. She is also a tireless advocate for her students. She has solicited donations of school supplies, teaching aids, books and even bicycles.

Ginny Gills, Principal at Cumberland Elementary, says, "Mrs. McCutcheon has a way to fold any student into her classroom, celebrating each student's uniqueness while building a collaborative and unified learning community."



QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill, adds, "Both Kathy McCutcheon and Ginny Gills are rock stars in my book. We love working with Cumberland ES. They do an awesome job for their students. It's wonderful to see an outstanding teacher get recognized for all she does in and out the classroom. I knew Kathy was a keeper when she distributed the first Scholastic book to the kids. The "Reading Duckie Activity Sheet" she created for the kids to use

with the book is exemplary. She knows how to maximize the resources she's given."

Please visit our <u>website</u> to learn more about what QCV is doing to promote physical activity, healthy eating and early childhood literacy for preschoolers through BrightSTARS – Tennis for Me! and our <u>Racquets for Reading!!!</u> initiative.

Want to be a great adult? Play tennis! Read books! Eat healthy! Have FUN!!! Be a QuickStart kid!

QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. QCV's service area includes Albemarle, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 212 schools with 99,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at <u>www.quickstartcentral.org</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For additional information, contact <u>quickstartcentral@comcast.net</u>.

A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!



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