



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Karen Egelhoff, Communications Coordinator | 262-376-6103

Thorson Elementary School Educator Awarded NAS Award

CEDARBURG, WI - Congratulations to Ms. Patty Kestell, Physical Education teacher at Thorson Elementary School, on being selected for induction into the North American Society (NAS) for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport, and Dance as a 2022 award recipient. Ms. Kestell was recognized for her contributions and achievements in the physical education profession at the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America) National Convention in a ceremony this past April.

To be inducted as a Fellow of NAS is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Established in 1999, the North American Society (NAS) recognizes outstanding professionals from within the allied professions of health education, physical education, recreation, sport, and dance in North America.

As an elementary PE teacher for over 30 years, she has imparted a love of movement, a curiosity for learning, and a foundation of physical literacy in her students that will set them up for greater success as they enter middle school and high school, and beyond. Some activities that Patty has been instrumental in bringing to the Thorson school community are Thorson Family Wellness Night, Fuel Up to Play 60 Student Wellness Program, Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart, Health Moves Minds curriculum, and Candle Light Snowshoe Hikes, just to name a few.

“As an educator, I feel fortunate to have called Cedarburg School District my home throughout my entire teaching career,” said Patty. “The greatest joy of teaching for me all these years has been the many connections I have made with my students, athletes, families, colleagues, and community members. I love working with all my students and take great pride in helping to guide each student in their steady progress and development in health and physical education. Serving as a leader in my state, regional and national health and physical education organizations has been an honor. I am grateful for the strong network of health and physical education teachers and CSD colleagues I have connected with, who have fueled my passion and growth as an educator over the years. I am truly humbled and honored to have been recognized and inducted into the North American Society (for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport, and Dance).”

The mission of the Cedarburg School District is to provide an exemplary education that challenges students in a nurturing environment to develop into lifelong learners, to become responsible adults, and to achieve their goals and dreams.