Our *Faces of Education* honoree this evening is Denise Hill. She serves our school corporation as the Media Specialist at Tri-North Middle School, and she is nominated by her Principal Dr. Gale Hill, who said, “Our library is truly the hub of our school. Students and teachers, alike, use it to its fullest and consider it a top “learning environment.”

The staff at Tri-North believes the credit for the media center’s success can be directly attributed to Denise, who always approaches her job with a spirit of excellence. “Denise is the consummate middle school librarian,” Dr. Hill also said in her nomination. “She is eager to help teachers make full use of the library and is tireless in her ability to make the library, our computer labs and herself available.”

Denise joined the MCCSC in 1977 after teaching fourth grade for three years in her hometown of Huntington, IN. Denise’s first assignment was at Binford Middle School, where she served until 1984 when Tri-North opened. “I’ve been here ever since,” she said. Denise acknowledges that she has seen many changes. She remembers 16 mm film projectors, card files, and the buzz surrounding the first VCRs and the first automated circulation system. Now in the midst of the digital era, Denise says her philosophy remains the same. She looks at each student as an individual, and she views each opportunity to work with teachers as a collaborative effort. “I have a belief that reading is the key to success in life.”

When notified about tonight’s recognition, Denise shared that she was honored and humbled, quickly sharing credit with her own parents and her fellow media specialists. “I try to do whatever I can to help,” she shared. Her love for her school and her students also was very apparent. “Tri-North is truly a family. There are never two days that are the same, and I enjoy the energy, the enthusiasm of middle schoolers, and the growth they exhibit at this age, she added.

Tonight it is the MCCSC Board of School Trustees’ pleasure to share in that energy and enthusiasm. Denise Hill, you are truly an example of what is finest about the profession of teaching and our school corporation. We are proud to recognize you as one of our shining *Faces of Education*. Congratulations!

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Faces of Education is a new feature of every regular Board of School Trustees Meeting. It is designed to recognize current MCCSC employees or volunteers, who have made a difference in our school community. Nomination forms can be found at each MCCSC site or on the web at www.mccsc.edu.