Our *Faces of Education* honoree this evening is Randy Tackett. He is a member of the Bloomington High School South custodial staff and a valued member of the MCCSC family. He is nominated by the MCCSC Human Resources Department for his role as a dedicated employee, his support of high school athletics and his dedication to the support staff employees he represents as president of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3995.

Randy or R.T., as his friends call him, proudly joined the South custodial staff on March 7, 1993. “I was looking for full-time employment. I started out cleaning classrooms and getting to know faculty and staff members,” he said during a recent conversation about his *Faces* nomination. Today, you will find him keeping the grounds for South, which entails everything from snow removal, to striping the athletic fields, to caring for the lawn.

It is through his work at South that he met Coach and Athletic Director J.R. Holmes, who gave R.T., the ultimate sports fan, a great opportunity. He became the manager for the basketball team in 1995, and a year later, he began doing the same for Panthers’ football. For R.T., who says he enjoys high school sports more than professional sports, the job is more than providing towels and water, it is about being able to provide encouragement and inspiration to the student athletes. He especially loves giving speeches to the students before the big games. Students take the game more seriously, he said. “I love watching the learning process and the competition.”

Bloomington High School South Principal Mark Fletcher has the highest regard for his staff member and sent the following words to honor him:

“R.T. embodies the spirit and enthusiasm of BHSS. He leads through example by always being positive, energetic, and displaying a “can do” attitude. Above all else, RT believes in kids and supports their efforts which is why he is one of the most well known and respected individuals in the entire school. Hey RT, here’s a big chest bump, high five and a “get off me Holmes” for all you do!”
In addition to helping students, R.T. also likes to help his fellow support staff employees. He has been the president of AFSCME Local 3995 for the past five years. “It has been a great, unique, an exciting experience,” he said. With AFSCME, R.T. said he not only helps his colleagues on the support staff side, but he also has had the opportunity to work with teachers, administrators, and principals.

The 15 plus years have flown quickly, but the goodness of the people makes it all worthwhile, R.T. said. “All of my experiences with MCCSC, I would not trade them for anything. It’s amazing how fast the 15 ½ years have rolled. I’m still awed by MCCSC. It’s just a fantastic place.”

Randy Tackett, we stand in awe of you as well. Your love for Bloomington High School South and the MCCSC community is amazing. We certainly believe in you, and the inspiration that you provide year after year to our students and your colleagues. Thank you very much!

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*Faces of Education* is a 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](http://www.mccsc.edu).