Our *Faces of Education* honoree this evening is Valerie Osborn, the Manager of the Hoosier Hills Daycare Center. She is nominated by the Monroe County Community School Corporation Human Resources Department.

Valerie, also known as “Val” to her friends and colleagues, has been a part of the MCCSC family for quite some time. She began her service to the School Corporation as a lunchroom/playground aide at Templeton Elementary School in 1996 and has served in several capacities since that time, including working in the School Age Care Program and as a literacy aide. During her employment, Valerie also devoted her time to her goal of becoming a licensed teacher, also doing her student teaching at Templeton. After obtaining her license, she took a position with the *Headstart* program before returning to MCCSC in 2007 to take on her current role as daycare manager.

“I truly enjoy this position. I get to teach and supervise. I work with young children, students and staff members. I am able to make some significant changes,” Valerie said during her recent interview for *Faces of Education*. Each day, she manages planning the curriculum, supervising her staff of six people, scheduling, budgeting, monitoring the infant room, working with students, and balancing state compliance issues. Valerie agrees the HHCC Daycare Center is a “sleeper” hit, quietly making a growing name for itself in the Monroe County community and with parents. HHCC Daycare is cost effective and not just for MCCSC staffers. “We have one of the lowest price centers, which allow part-timers (partial day schedules), Valerie said. A diamond in the rough, HHCC Day Care also invests in its employees by offering benefits and training. This has allowed her to build longevity and consistency among her staff members, which is better for students and parents. “We have quality care open to the general public,” she added.

HHCC Director Ed Brown is very proud of Valerie’s performance and believes the daycare has flourished under her leadership. He offered these words:

“I first became acquainted with Val Osborn as a student in the Hoosier Hills Early Childhood Education program in the early 90's, attending from Edgewood High School. Val was a serious student in the program but had plans to go into law enforcement as a career. Several years later, her name appeared as an applicant for the Hoosier Hills Day Care Manager position. Through reading her application, I learned that Val had followed her high school education through to college and a baccalaureate degree in
elementary education and an elementary teaching license. She was perfect for the job of managing the daycare center. Val is a very dedicated employee that has many responsibilities as the manager of a very involved business, including coordinating the center's activities with the Early Childhood Education high school teacher and her students. Most importantly, she assures that the children and parents are happy with the care provided. As you can see with her many hats she wears, Val is a hard worker. She goes about her work in a pleasant manner and is a true professional in all that she does. I am extremely happy for Val and her recognition for this most deserved award. Congratulations!”

Indeed, congratulations are in order! The MCCSC Board of School Trustees is proud to recognize you, Valerie Osborn, among its dedicated and shining Faces of Education. Thank you for the difference that you make in the lives of our families and community.

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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.