This month we recognize five outstanding individuals who contribute to the excellence of their schools, District, and PESD communities. We give a special thanks to their colleagues for nominating them as we recognize and share their success.

- **Brischell Palmer-Eastburn** - Instructional Coach at Amberlea Elementary
- **Maurilio Luna** - Custodian at Pendergast Elementary
- **Darla Baquedano** - Principal at Sonoran Sky Elementary
- **Siobhan McCarthy** - Principal at Rio Vista Elementary
- **Rod Hinkel** - Principal at Westwind Elementary

**Brischell Palmer-Eastburn, Instructional Coach at Amberlea Elementary School**

Brischell Palmer-Eastburn, Instructional Coach at Amberlea Elementary School, has been chosen as a Bee Recognized Award winner for her selfless, devoted, and genuine nature. Brischell is always attentive to the needs of others and never says no when asked for help. She is described by others as a well organized person, who is dedicated and passionate to serving others. Brischell is always positive and willing to go the extra mile for anyone who needs assistance. We are so grateful to her for all she has contributed to Amberlea Elementary School and the Pendergast District. Congratulations, Brischell!

**Maurilio Luna, Pendergast Elementary School District Custodian**

Maurilio Luna, Pendergast Elementary School District Custodian, was selected as a Bee Recognized Award winner for his hard work and dedication. He has been a fierce supporter of the Pendergast District for over 22 years. He always goes above and beyond in everything that he does and is always willing to lend a hand. He is well respected by everyone he works with and understands the importance of being part of a high functioning team. If you need something done, just ask Maurilio, and he will find a way to make it happen. We are so fortunate to have Maurilio as a valued member of the Pendergast Elementary School District team. Congratulations, Maurilio, and thanks for all you do to help this district be the very best!
Darla Baquedano, Principal at Sonoran Sky Elementary School

Darla Baquedano, Principal at Sonoran Sky Elementary School, was selected as a Bee Recognized Award winner because she is inspiring, compassionate, and dedicated to the success of Sonoran Sky Elementary School. In her first year as principal she has concentrated on building the morale of staff and students as we continue to face challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Baquedano has helped create a positive work environment where students and staff can flourish even in these difficult times. In such a short period of time, she has made parents and staff feel heard and valued. Her leadership qualities are outstanding and always makes decisions in the best interest of students, staff, and the community that she serves. We congratulate Ms. Baquedano for all that she is doing at Sonoran Sky Elementary School!

Siobhan McCarthy, Principal at Rio Vista Elementary School

Siobhan McCarthy, Rio Vista Elementary School Principal, was selected as a Bee Recognized Award winner because of everything that she does for her students, staff, and community. Ms. McCarthy is known for being dedicated and devoted to providing excellence in everything that she does. She has done a remarkable job of building a positive school climate that promotes acceptance, kindness, high expectations, and respect. Her school has shown significant academic growth over the last years and continues to set the bar high for the Rio Vista Mustangs. She has embraced the district’s vision to empower excellence and success and is always encouraging her students and staff to aim higher. Congratulations to Principal McCarthy, we are so fortunate to have you with us!

Rod Henkel, Principal at Westwind Elementary School

Rod Henkel, Principal at Westwind Elementary School, was selected as a Bee Recognized Award winner for his tireless effort to provide an exceptional learning experience to all Westwind students. He is known as a caring, dedicated, and passionate principal who always advocates for students, staff, and community. Students and staff love being part of the Westwind family because they feel supported and recognized for their daily efforts. Mr. Henkel has built great rapport with the Westwind community and has earned the parents’ trust with their children’s education. Westwind loves and appreciates his leadership and we are grateful for all he does for the Pendergast District!