

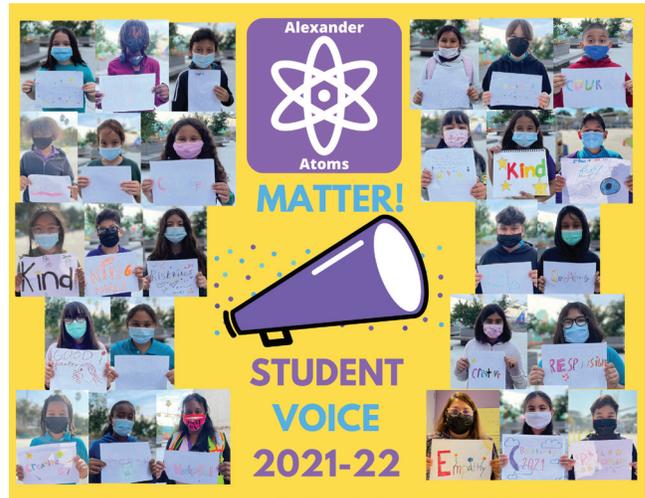
# 2022 UNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

## Atoms Matter Student Voice Leadership Group

Los Angeles, CA

Marina Delgado

The Atoms Matter Student Voice group is comprised of 4th and 5th grade school leaders. This group has promoted kindness, acceptance, and inclusion on the K-5 campus all year long through posters, Unity Week, positive morning announcements, and recess activities for all grades. They've also promoted school spirit days that encourage participation for everyone including Earth Day, 90s Day, and Pride Day. These students are encouraging all our school community members to be kind, accepting, and inclusive.



## EllaGrace Clinger

Shalimar, FL

Nominated by Anonymous

EllaGrace is an enthusiastic activist with aspirations of creating a global community and culture of unity, inclusion and kindness. Bullying prevention has always been her top priority. In elementary school she supported students who were left out or bullied and tried to redirect students who bullied. Now a high school student, she continues to lead with efforts including: successfully encouraging over 1,000 students to take a bullying prevention pledge, creating educational and motivational videos, supporting others, and distributing information. She's a tutor for "at risk" students, a partner for individuals with disabilities and an ambassador for encouraging technology careers for girls. She has received multiple certifications in positive leadership and volunteers with several organizations, so she can more efficiently reach out to others. EllaGrace herself is considered "at risk" and has endured tragedies that could've easily defeated her spirit. Throughout everything she maintains 4.0+ GPA. She has gracefully conquered every obstacle in her path and continues strives to create a better world and a stronger, more united culture of kindness and inclusion.



# 2022 UNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

## **Mr. Edwin Cordero, Sr.**

**McDonough, GA**

*Nominated by Timecca Cordero*

Mr. Edwin Cordero has been spreading bullying prevention awareness throughout the Henry County in Georgia. He organized a school event and a community wide event which had over 1000 attendees. Mr. Cordero discussed these initiatives at the Henry County Commissioners Board Meetings. He also collaborated with State Representative and State Senators who have signed into laws bills related to bullying prevention. He also directs and organized a community watch working with law enforcements to bring unity and bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community. The list goes on and on and so does his ambitions of spreading awareness and kindness.



## **DaVonia Lashae Henry**

**Kansas City, KS**

*Nominated by Brittany Bohrer*

DaVonia was the first person at our school who came to mind when I read about the Unity Award. DaVi celebrates all her peers, is positive, and bridges divides between groups of students who may otherwise not connect. Though DaVi has a strong sense of self and her values, she is wholeheartedly accepting of others, often being the first student to show new students around, introduce them to staff, and help them get oriented to new classes and routines. Through working on increasing her own self-advocacy skills, DaVi uses her new knowledge to advocate for others and encourage her peers to also learn self-advocacy skills. She is a leader in our school always looking for ways to build community in small ways, such as starting and encouraging others to play board games, as well as large ways, such as helping to organize and promote the first prom our school has had.



# 2022 UNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

## Hunter Elementary

Brownstown, MI

Nominated by Christina David

At Hunter Elementary, bullying prevention culture is built into the school community on a daily basis. Throughout the year, there are multiple events that recognize the need to take a stand against bullying and to encourage students to advocate for themselves and others. This philosophy radiates out to parents, community members, and anyone who walks through the doors. The practice of striving year-round to practice creating a kinder, more inclusive, and accepting environment is implemented in a multitude of ways. They range from whole school incentives, classroom challenges, individual student goals, education for staff, and community awareness. There is a monthly focus trait discussed during our school-wide assembly to continue to spread awareness to be better citizens. National Bullying Prevention Month is celebrated throughout October with weekly activities and lessons that teach students the importance of ending bullying and how to be an upstander. Every staff and student sign a pledge which in turn gets an orange bracelet. Our halls are filled with bullying prevention banners and orange is worn on Unity Day. In April, our school participated in the virtual RUN WALK ROLL; Moving toward a world without bullying. There is a lot of pride on making a difference in this large cause and everyone involved hopes to continue doing this in years to come. At Hunter the belief is, WE CAN DO ANYTHING! Ask anyone, "Hunter is just a great place to be!" #ProudHunterHornets



## Outspoken Oaks Upstanders

Westlake Village, CA

Nominated by Maria Montagne

The Outspoken Oaks are students from grades 6-12, who meet online once a week to learn the different types of bullying. The club was created due to a cyberbullying incident, and everyone involved wanted to make sure it wouldn't happen again. The group participated in the PACER's RUN WALK ROLL event to spread awareness of bullying prevention and an Earth Day event to respect the diversity of different ethnicities and individualities. We showed at the event to care for the world, care for each other, and to raise awareness in our school community. The group held a poster contest to share the beauty of kindness through art. The Outspoken Oaks are sharing mindfulness, making friends, and spreading happiness for the school community. This was the first year of our club and it has exceeded all expectations! Let's all become Upstanders and help the world!



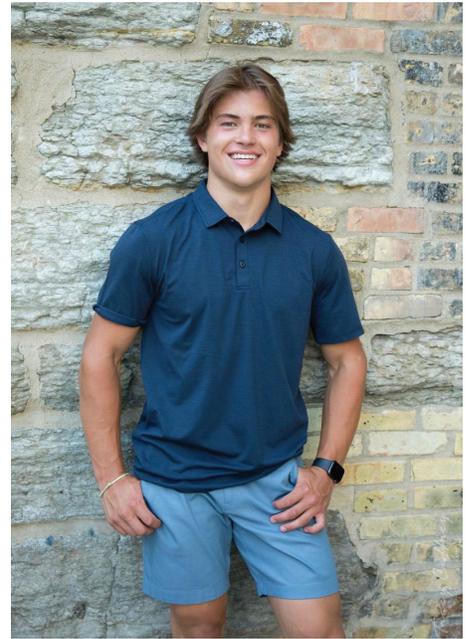
# 2022 UNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

## **Zack Retka**

**Rosemount, MN**

*Nominated by Timecca Cordero*

Zack participates in MN Blind Hockey encouraging all the athletes. He also gets his friends and teammates involved to do the same. By reaching out to others in his community, he makes a difference and has helped spread awareness about the sport of blind hockey.



## **Mr. Anthony Stowe**

**Kansas City, KS**

*Nominated by Cesar Alvarez*

Mr. Stowe is a 5th grade teacher at Frances Willard Elementary in KCKPS. He puts a lot of energy in ensuring that all students in his class, which are very diverse, feel safe and valued. Mr. Stowe prioritizes the morning to doing social emotional messages. When issues arise regarding bullying, he ensures that it is addressed and remedied. Mr. Stowe's students value him and the environment he has created. He is truly a gem!



# 2022 UNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

## Emma T

Greenville, OH

*Nominated by Katy Copas*

Emma is a first grader. A fellow student got her hair cut in a short bob. A few kids in the class made fun of the girl, calling her a boy. Emma told her teachers in secret that she was going to get her hair cut like the girl. She was very excited about it. Then a few days later, she walked into the classroom with her hood on. She walked up to the other girl, pulled her hood down to reveal her hair cut, which was short just like the other girl. The other girl got so happy, and the two embraced. I am so proud of Emma for her incredible act of kindness.



## Ms. Chantelle Vaughn

Richfield, MN

*Nominated by Colleen Mahoney*

Ms. Chantelle has consistently gone "over and above" to make sure the students in our elementary school are being heard and cared for. She responds to every complaint of bullying or unkind behavior, meeting with students and parents often, and she follows up with students as needed. She works closely with school staff and administration to keep everyone focused and working together to support a positive school climate. Because of her critical work, we have seen a significant drop in Bully Reports and Behavior Referrals in our school this year. Ms. Chantelle visits classrooms daily, models calm and respectful behavior, and provides classroom and small group lessons on kindness, empathy, inclusion, bullying prevention, supports the work our teachers do in the classroom by providing resources, presenting information at staff and team meetings, and offering her skills whenever needed or requested. Students love Ms. Chantelle, and our diverse school community respects the work she does and the "extras" she provides. Ms. Chantelle finds a way to fit all of this in, along with her many other duties as a School Social Worker, because she truly cares about every student in our school.

