

# I Touched the Future 2022

I would like to take this opportunity to nominate **Ms. Linda Simmons** for the **I Touch the Future Award**. Linda worked in the Nazareth Area School District for 19 ½ years. She started her career as a clerical district assistant at Lower Nazareth Elementary School in 1995. Linda retired in 2015 and at that time served the District as the Administrative Assistant for the Assistant Superintendent for Support Services and Human Resources. Linda served in this capacity for 6 years up to her retirement.

Every employee, administrator, teacher and support staff would have the pleasure of working with Linda during the hiring process. Linda had an amazing personality and was always willing to assist individuals with the completion of their paperwork. Her organizational skills in processing, organizing and filing of such paperwork was exceptional. Over the years Linda took it upon herself to become exceptionally familiar with all of the components of the Human Resources department. The certification requirements, clearance and contractual parameters brought numerous changes and challenges to the HR department. Linda never complained about it – she dealt with every issue with a positive mindset and always with a smile.

I would observe how Linda would work with our new employees – she became a “mother figure” for many of them. Individuals always felt very comfortable coming in and speaking to Linda – this was a reflection on her positive character.

Linda has undoubtedly worked with more than half of our current active employees. Personally, and professionally, it was very difficult to see Linda retire. However, her retirement was well deserving for her performance, dedication and commitment to the Nazareth Area School District.

For these reasons, I am requesting the committee strongly consider my recommendation.

Thank you.

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*Dennis L. Riber, Ed.D.*