

## **2017 Golden Acorn Award Recipient**



**Eva Downs**



Eva Downs' work at Newcastle Elementary has benefitted numerous children and families within our community over the years. Her unfailing dedication to whatever is asked of her, often going above and beyond to ensure that no child is left behind, has lifted the spirit of our community and improved the programs we offer. We are delighted to announce that Eva is one of the 2017 Golden Acorn Recipients!

As Co-VP of Ways and Means, Eva was an integral part of the 2015-16 PTSA Executive Board. Eva would let no obstacle stand in the way of maximizing the amount of funds raised to benefit the programming and services provided by the PTSA and always offered a helping hand. Eva helped to find new sponsors for our student directory and co-chaired our spring fundraiser, the Orange Ruler Fun Run, working tirelessly to help it surpass the school set goal and bringing together the whole school as a community. Eva co-chaired the Gift-A-Book program for our library for two years. Her organization has benefitted this worthwhile program, increasing the number of quality books available to our students. Contributing to the library even more, Eva also chaired the Spring Book Fair in 2015 and has helped with it ever since, including a commitment to be a part of it again, this spring. She has also co-chaired to help secure a new vendor for spirit wear, with 10% of all sales benefiting the PTSA. And, this year, she thought of new and innovative ways to secure quality wine bottle donations for the premium wine bottle table for the PTSA biennial auction.

Eva can also be seen around the school volunteering in her children's classrooms. Over the years she has been a Co-Art Docent and Co-Room Parent and can also be found contributing in the library during library time, working with students and chaperoning on field trips.

Eva's dedication to children does not stop within the Newcastle Elementary community. Eva is in her second season of helping coach her daughter's basketball team. She has also volunteered as Reflections judge at the district level for the past two years.

Eva graciously balances her dedication to the school and community with a cheerful and friendly disposition. Eva's time and dedication have benefitted all students at Newcastle and within the district. Newcastle is very fortunate to have such a wonderful and dedicated volunteer. We are proud to honor Eva as one of our 2017 Golden Acorn Award winners.