



# Santa Barbara County Education Office

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Susan C. Salcido, Superintendent of Schools

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Santa Barbara County Education Office announces Classified School Employees of the Year**

On May 2, the Santa Barbara County Education Office and the Santa Barbara County Board of Education will recognize five exceptional individuals as the 2019 Santa Barbara County Classified School Employees of the Year. The recognition will take place starting at 2:05 p.m. in the Board Room at the Santa Barbara County Education Office, 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Building A.

“Classified employees are integral to helping our students, schools, and communities succeed,” said Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools Susan Salcido. “They fulfill a wide range of roles that are essential to our schools, contributing to the education of children. We are grateful for their dedication and professionalism.”

Five individuals were selected to represent the five award categories. The following are summaries of the information submitted by the individuals and district representatives who nominated them. They provide background on what makes them particularly unique and deserving of the awards.

**Kim Bramsen, Ballard School District:** Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities  
Kim is a second-generation caretaker of the charming little red schoolhouse of the Ballard School District and a well-respected figure at the school whose grounds and building he maintains diligently. He is treasured by the school community for both his excellent work and the relationships he builds with students.

**Shannon Filburn, Lompoc Unified School District:** Support Services and Security  
Shannon went from student press operator in the regional occupation program (ROP) to career employee in the Printing Department with the Lompoc Unified School District. She is known for her unwavering kindness, her willingness to help out with whatever needs to be done, and her commitment to the students.

**Richard “Mr. Rick” Nichols, Solvang School District,** Transportation  
Mr. Rick is a bus driver at Solvang School District who not only transports students safely to school and back, and makes their field trips memorable, but also shares his

knowledge of science and history with students. He loves to share stories and can often be found volunteering in the classroom.

**Kathy Robb, Buellton Union School District:** Para-Educator and Instructional Assistance

Kathy is an instructional assistant at Oak Valley Elementary School in the Buellton Union School District whose day starts early with the before-school Homework Club program. Her welcoming smile greets the students as they start their day. She is known as the “can do” person on campus, providing support wherever needed.

**Sandra Tomasini, Solvang School District:** Office and Technical

Sandra is a payroll and accounting technician at Solvang School District. Her work not only earns excellent audit results but also leads to grant funding and beautification projects for the district. She is known as a cheerleader for both the school and the community.

The nomination process started at the district level, with each of our 20 districts invited to nominate classified employees from the different categories. A county committee reviewed the nominations and selected the county’s nominees.

Their nominations have been forwarded to the state for consideration as California Classified School Employees of the Year. The state winners will be honored in Sacramento in May.

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