



South Williamsport

{AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT}



December 4, 2018

School board presents first Million Mountie Lights Award

Ms. Pat Peltier and Ms. Theresa Summerson received the first Million Mountie Lights Awards at the South Williamsport Area School District board meeting on Monday.

Million Mountie Lights is a biannual award given by the school board to individuals or groups that significantly contribute to the school district or to the educational opportunities in the community. Nominees must have done noteworthy acts that have had a substantial impact on learning, students or community educational opportunities.

Ms. Peltier, a recently retired Diakon outreach counselor for grades kindergarten through eighth, was nominated for her unshakeable commitment to her students for 16 years. Since retirement, she spearheaded the creation of a school-affiliated organization Mountie QUEST which seeks to provide financial resources to enrich the academic experiences of individual students.

Joining her at the meeting was her therapy dog Elli, who visits students at Central Elementary School for the Biscuit Buddies program. Each month teachers select one student from their class to have lunch and read to a therapy dog.

“I am incredibly honored to receive one of the Million Mountie Lights Awards,” Ms. Peltier said. “Working at the South Williamsport Area School District was the highlight of my career.”

Her work helping and supporting students has made a lasting impact on countless lives during her tenure.

Ms. Summerson, the South Williamsport Area Jr/Sr High School girls’ tennis head coach for eight years, was nominated for her investment in student athletes as well as being an asset in the community tennis court project.

“I am humbled to be chosen as one of the recipients of the Million Mountie Lights Award,” she said. “My love for South makes me proud to help make a difference in the lives of children throughout the district.”

This year the girls tennis team had an undefeated season and were ranked in PIAA’s top 8 teams. She said she is incredibly proud of her athletes’ team spirit, hard work and pure talent that has taken them to new heights.



During Monday nights school board meeting, the first two Million Mountie Lights Awards were given to Ms. Pat Peltier and Ms. Theresa Summerson for their tremendous efforts to better the lives of students in the South Williamsport Area School District. Shown L-R: Mr. Chris Branton, school board president; Peltier; Summerson; and Dr. Mark Stamm, District Superintendent.

Five years ago Ms. Summerson joined a passionate group of community members who wanted to build new tennis courts at the public park. Together they raised \$280,000 to pay for the courts which are now used by people of all ages who love the sport as much as she does.

Both women's dedication has made a massive impact on the lives of young people throughout the school district and community.

Nominations for the spring Million Mountie Lights Award closes February 28, 2019. The nomination form is accessible at www.swasd.org, Our District – Million Mountie Lights.