

# Kingswood Turnaround Educator Award



Heather Cripps has been an educator in the Oromocto Center for many years. She began her career in teaching where students begin their career in school – Kindergarten! She later became a Vice Principal of Summerhill / Burton schools and then Principal of Geary. Heather was recognized for the work she had done with staff and students promoting literacy and was appointed to the position of Literacy Supervisor. She worked with a team to promote adult professional learning and was a recipient

of Innovative Learning Fund and partnered with a publishing company to create a Professional Learning Center for educators. Her promotion of lifelong learning and having access to resources is a theme that has continued to her current position as principal of Gesner Street Elementary School. Heather continues to lead by example by focusing on the needs of the learner. She knows every student's name and can often be found asking about their siblings, their sports and anything they may be involved in. They are her children! Heather models the importance of making personal connections to the students and she often can be found visiting classes greeting the children with her smile! Her lens is framed with the belief in "all students can learn" and all "students will learn". She works tirelessly with school based student services teams and teacher teams to support the needs of the learners and she will go beyond the walls of the school to find the resources the students need to be successful. Many students return to Gesner after moving on from grade 2 to say hello to Mrs. Cripps. She is a rock star to the children and she is a star when it comes to demonstrating that a caring professional can influence the behavior of a student by believing in them.

