



Acknowledging Excellence

Provincial legislators, parents and educators alike have become increasingly aware that society's goals for student learning depend on good teaching in all our schools. The quality of teaching in our classrooms is the most important in-school factor for improving student achievement. All classroom teachers should be recognized on a daily basis but this is often not the case.

Students continue to reap the benefits from the dedicated educators in our city. This program should provide a unique opportunity for us to celebrate those who, tirelessly and often selflessly, dedicate their lives to securing a future for the next generation. Teaching is an art and science, the most difficult, most rewarding, and most important of careers.

The Calgary Hitmen Hockey Club and TELUS have developed a partnership aimed at recognizing both Calgary Board of Education and Calgary Catholic School District Elementary teachers. The program entitled "Front of the Class" celebrates students' recognition of the impact that Elementary teachers have on their academic, moral, personal and social development. The program encourages elementary students to express appreciation through creative writing for one of their current teacher's dedication and skill.

The "Front of the Class" program is one method of involving children and their parents in recognizing the importance teachers play on the development of children under their care. Most teacher recognition programs are provincial or national and few involve student nominations. As a result, this program will generate much needed public recognition of the importance of having excellent teachers in Calgary.

The awards do not imply that a recipient's contribution is superior to that of other teachers. Rather, these awards signal that students have noticed and appreciated that a teacher has made an important difference to them.

Program specifics

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE), the Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD), TELUS and the Calgary Hitmen will be the partners in this program. This partnership will continue during the 2011-2012 Hitmen season.

Program specifics (continued)

The call for nominations will begin in October, 2011. The program will conclude in March 2012. One teacher from the CCSD and one teacher from the CBE will be selected from all nominations received for each of the designated games between October, 2011 and March, 2012. Ten teachers in total will be selected; five from the CBE and five from CCSD. In addition all student nominations from those submitted from both the CBE and the CCSD will be eligible each month of the program for two tickets to an upcoming Calgary Hitmen game.

The teacher selected along with the students in their class and the school principal will each receive two tickets for the designated Front of the Class Hitmen game. This year's games will be held on the following dates: Sunday, October 23rd, Sunday, November 20th, Friday, December 16th, Sunday, January 29th, Sunday February 26th. All of the teachers selected will be invited to return for special recognition on Sunday March 17th, 2012. Each teacher will be recognized on the Jumbotron and provided with a keepsake of the event. The 10 teachers as well as all of the nominated teachers and their schools will also be featured on the Calgary Hitmen websites under a Front of the Class header.

Deadline for nominations will be as follows:

DEADLINE	GAME DATE
Monday, October 17 th	Sunday, October 23 rd
Monday, November 14 th	Sunday, November 20 th
Friday, December 9 th	Friday, December 16 th
Monday, January 23 rd	Sunday, January 29 th
Monday, February 20 th	Sunday, February 26 th
All teacher recognition	Sunday, March 17 th

Nominations can be completed online at www.hitmenhockey.com or emailed to dfretts@hitmenhockey.com Letters can also be sent via Canada Post to:

Calgary Hitmen Front of the Class
Attention: Marketing Department
Box 1540 Station M
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3B9

Student's first name and last initial, school name, teacher's name and classroom number will be the only information required on the application.

We thank all partners and participants in recognizing the valuable contributions teachers make daily in the lives of children.

For more information contact Derald Fretts at the Calgary Hitmen Hockey Club at 403-777-5309 or dfretts@hitmenhockey.com

Yours truly,



Mike Moore
Director of Business Operations
Calgary Hitmen Hockey Club

Front of the Class” Elementary Teacher Recognition Program

Who: Elementary students enrolled in the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD) Elementary Schools are eligible

What: An elementary teacher recognition program

When: Deadline for nominations each month as follows:

DEADLINE	GAME DATE
Monday, October 17 th	Sunday, October 23 rd
Monday, November 14 th	Sunday, November 20 th
Friday, December 9 th	Friday, December 16 th
Monday, January 23 rd	Sunday, January 29 th
Monday, February 20 th	Sunday, February 26 th
All teacher recognition	Sunday, March 17 th

Why: To provide elementary students with the opportunity to recognize a current teacher for their impact on that student’s academic, moral, personal and social development

Recognition: The 10 teachers selected, along with the students in their class and a parent for each of the students, would be invited to a Calgary Hitmen game free of charge

Partners: Calgary Hitmen Hockey Club, TELUS, the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School District

Contact: Derald Fretts – 403-777-5309 or dfretts@hitmenhockey.com

Front of the Class Rules

- **One entry per student**
- **Students may only nominate a current teacher**
- **Students must complete all nomination information for their nomination to be considered**
- **Students are encouraged to complete the nomination on their own but may ask their parents for help**
- **All nominations must be accompanied by an entry form**

- All students must return a signed Parent Permission Form to their school to participate.
- Teachers selected for each month will be notified by a personal telephone call to the school
- Nomination submissions will not be returned

Deadline for nominations each month will be as follows:

DEADLINE	GAME DATE
Monday, October 17 th	Sunday, October 23 rd
Monday, November 14 th	Sunday, November 20 th
Friday, December 9 th	Friday, December 16 th
Monday, January 23 rd	Sunday, January 29 th
Monday, February 20 th	Sunday, February 26 th
All teacher recognition	Sunday, March 17 th

Teacher and Student Information

School Name and District _____

School Phone Number _____

Name of Your Special
Teacher _____

Teacher's Job Title _____
(Science Teacher, Assistant Principal etc)

Student's First Name and Last Name Initial (Example Steven B.)
(please print clearly)

Grade _____ Classroom _____

Nominations can be completed online at www.hitmenhockey.com or emailed to dfretts@hitmenhockey.com Letters can also be sent via Canada Post to

**Calgary Hitmen Front of the Class
Attention: Marketing Department
Box 1540 Station M**

Calgary, Alberta T2P 3B9

Parent Permission Form – fill in only if not already done so at your school

Your child has an opportunity to participate in the Front of the Class Elementary Teacher Recognition program. Programs of this nature are given careful consideration by the Principal and staff. Approval for the school to participate may only be granted by the Principal.

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD) co-operate with private organizations, such as the program sponsors, in encouraging public celebration of the talents and abilities of both teachers and students. Should your child's nomination be successful you will need to provide your child's school with additional authorization for use of your child's picture in various program promotions.

Please complete this form and ensure it is attached to the nomination form.

I consent to my child being involved in the previously described "Front of the Class" program under the terms and conditions described.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Name (please print)

Student Signature

School:

Date:

Please check the nomination rules and be sure to have your parents fill in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Information and a Parent consent form and return this permission form to your school.

Write a letter to tell us about your teacher and why they are special.