

Terry Greenaway, Kathy Hallenbeck receive Sandia Excellence in Teaching Awards

On Tuesday, Dec. 10, Sandia National Laboratories presented two local teachers with Excellence in Teaching Awards at the regular meeting of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's Board of Education. Terry Greenaway, a science specialist at Jackson Avenue Elementary School, and Kathy Hallenbeck, a chemistry teacher at Livermore High School (LHS), each received a \$500 award.

"The purpose of the Excellence in Teaching Award is to recognize teachers who foster a love of math, science, and technology in their students," says Stephanie Beasly (8521), community relations officer for Sandia/California. "The STEM subjects – science, technology, engineering and math – are vital to Sandia's mission and our nation as a whole."

In his nomination form, Greenaway is described as "more than a science teacher ... a mentor and friend to not only his students, but parents and faculty as well. He does so much more than what is asked of him on a daily basis, and I appreciate how he inspires our students to pursue science in their daily lives." In addition to his regular science classes at Jackson, Greenaway also spends time outside of regular school hours developing curriculum, helping students with science fair experiments, and leading telescope-viewing activities of celestial events.

He has taught science at Jackson for the last nine years and has more than 20 years of experience teaching biology, chemistry, earth science, and physical science to students in high school, middle school, and elementary school. To increase his knowledge of current scientific developments, Greenaway has completed summer internships at Lucille Packard Children's Hospital, Life Technologies, and Applied Materials through the Industry Initiatives in Science and Math Education program.

In her nomination form, Hallenbeck is described as "a tireless champion for her students and the rock upon which [LHS's] high-achieving chemistry department was built." She holds many study sessions for the Advanced Placement Chemistry exam outside of the regular class time, resulting in high scores for her students on this challenging test.

She also organizes educational activities to take the students outside of the four walls of the classroom. These activities have included planting acorns at Pleasanton Ridge and helping park rangers maintain hiking trails in the park. Furthermore, Hallenbeck is active with Get Set, an extracurricular enrichment program for Tri-Valley high school girls with interests in math, science, technology, and engineering.

In 2007, Sandia established an endowment with the Livermore Valley Education Foundation (LVEF) to fund the Excellence in Teaching Award, which is given to two outstanding teachers in December of each year. Principals and staff members can nominate teachers for the award, and parents and students are encouraged to submit suggestions to site principals. Selection is then made by a committee that includes representatives from LVEF, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, and Sandia.

Previous recipients are Mike Waltz, Susan Johnston, and Nelson Fong, Livermore High School; Elizabeth Lopez, Granada High School; Regina Brinker, Christensen Middle School; Stefanie Erlwein and Ravi Prabhala, East Avenue Middle School; Jennifer Profumo, Joe Michell K-8; Jan Bennett, Junction Avenue K-8; Leslie Stevens,

Mendenhall Middle School; Mary Martha Swanson, Rancho Las Positas Elementary School; and the team of Wendy Otvos, Sharon Abri, Erika Johnston, and Kerry Barger, Marylin Avenue Elementary School.

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From left to right: Stephanie Beasley, Sandia/California community relations officer; Terry Greenaway, Jackson Avenue Elementary School science specialist; Kathy Hallenbeck, LHS chemistry teacher; and Vicki Schellenberger, LVEF president.