

# EXPLORER

SCHOOL OF  
TECHNOLOGY

SPECIAL  
6TH GRADE  
EDITION

FEBRUARY  
2010



## Sixth Grade Trailblazers of the Month

Since our sixth graders are so special to us at Explorer, and for being such a fabulous class, we thought we would compile a special edition in their honor.

Please welcome me in congratulating our sixth grade Trailblazers: J.P. LoPresti from Mrs. Grubb's class, Lauren O'Donnell from Mrs. Lambert's room, and Marlena Radic from Mrs. Skoff's class. These young students have demonstrated good citizenship, integrity, and consistency of effort in all their undertakings.

I think all of our Trailblazers hold one thing in common: shock at being selected a Trailblazer. Marlena Radic was no exception. Marlena was very excited to hear this wonderful news and believes that she was chosen by her teacher because she completes all her assignments and gets very good grades. Marlena loves being at Explorer and was ready to come here and try middle school after leaving her Wildfire

environment. She thought it would be a good experience for her and would prepare her for seventh grade. Explorer has not disappointed Marlena. She loves music and math and assists students in her classroom when they need help.

She likes that the dress code is different from elementary school and enjoys the fact that the sixth graders have their own area at Explorer. She enjoys lunch with her friends where she gets to catch up with everyone.

I believe that Marlena might be a young environmentalist. She is currently working on a video for the Media Fest where she is studying about pollution in the oceans. Marlena is an avid reader and when we were talking about the use of Kindles or books, she hopes that hand-held books remain, but saw the advantage of being paperless with the use of e-books. Who knows, we might have a budding scientist in our midst.

Marlena also enjoys visiting with friends and loves spending time with her family. She has an older sister and a younger brother and sister. Marlena advises new students: "Try your hardest in school; sometimes it can get tough." I think this is great advice from a precocious young lady.



Our next Trailblazer is a student from Mrs. Lambert's class: Lauren O'Donnell. Lauren was totally surprised to be our sixth grade Trailblazer. She believes that Mrs. Lambert was very good at keeping a secret, because she had no idea that she had been selected. Lauren thinks the key to her success is that she tries her hardest.



Lauren has enjoyed being a sixth grader at Explorer and especially likes our wonderful outdoor campus. She also thinks it is great to have a real band room. Lauren plays the trumpet and only began taking lessons last year. She is inspired by Mr. Hatler. Her favorite subjects are math and science. She really wants to be an engineer and is interested in learning to build machines that use renewable fuels. (It is never too early to aspire to greatness).

Science and Math are Lauren's favorite subjects. Science teaches her how things work and connect and Lauren enjoys problem solving in math. She is currently working on a project for the Media Fest and her topic is how to survive an earthquake. Outside of school Lauren plays softball and she has done so since she was five years old. She enjoys being a catcher. This Trailblazer also likes to swim and finds it relaxing.

In the future, Lauren will be at Vista Verde in the IB program. This will be a bittersweet experience for Lauren, since she will be leaving Explorer and some of her friends. But this Trailblazer is excited to try new things. Best of luck to you, Lauren!

Her advice to students: "Don't be scared. You will have a good experience at Explorer."

J.P. LoPresti is the Trailblazer from Mrs. Grubb's class. Hats off to J.P.! This Trailblazer was surprised to be our most recent selection. In fact, he was almost speechless. J. P. thinks Mrs. Grubb notices that he likes to help out in the classroom. J.P. loves Explorer and thinks it is a great place to be. He is estatic that technology is incorporated into learning. He is working on his Media Fest project, which will highlight Marie Curie. He much prefers using technology to express himself, rather than doing written work.

J.P. has shown an interest in engineering and would like to design things that help people in their everyday life, as well as supporting the environment. He hopes to have tech lab and P.E. for his electives in seventh grade. His favorite subject is Social Studies and he just loves history. He thinks that it is important to learn about the past in order to prevent mistakes in the future.

J.P. has been studying Taekwondo for two and a half years and he is a black belt. He believes that it takes a lot of discipline and perseverance to do well in the martial arts, but he has accomplished his goal and he is proud that he was able to master all nine forms. J.P.'s advice to incoming sixth graders: "Explorer is a great place. Try your best. It's all you can do. Good luck."

Congrats to these amazing young students!

