

Rita Hall

Baltimore County PTSA Special Recognition Award

April 26, 2012

I would like to nominate Rita Hall to be recognized for her dedication and hard work for the students at Catonsville High School and her community. Rita has been involved with the PTSA for several years. Her commitment to bettering our schools and providing a safe environment goes above and beyond her peers. Most recently, Rita has served as the vice president for our PTSA. In this capacity, she always makes herself available to attend meetings or school functions. The principal knows she can rely on Rita to go to events sponsored by the school board or where ever she may be needed. Rita meets with school administrators to review the school calendar and coordinate school versus PTSA fundraisers to get the most benefit to both. She is willing to help out where ever help is needed.

In addition to serving on the PTSA board, Rita is also the chairperson of the After Prom Party. She has held this position for several years and has made many contacts within our community. Rita works non-stop throughout the year to provide a fun and safe environment for our seniors to enjoy on their prom night. The kids attend the prom then come back to the high school to check in for the After Prom Party. This process has been fine tuned over the years to maintain a safe alcohol and drug free night. The seniors are bussed to Dave and Busters at Arundel Mills Mall for 4 hours of entertainment. They are then bussed back to the high school at 5 am. This event costs on the average of \$24,000.00. The kids are charged \$10.00. Rita scouts out grants and donations from businesses and families. She also organizes fundraisers throughout the year to sponsor the party so that the kids will not have to pay. This is a massive undertaking and Rita does it with a smile on her face year after year. I am quite certain that she has kept many kids safe because the After Prom Party is the place to be after the prom.

Rita is very committed to Catonsville High School, but that does not stop her from helping others not related to the school. Recently Rita heard of a friend that needed a medical device that her insurance company would not pay for. The device cost several thousands of dollars. Rita organized a fundraiser at Salisbury University with the volleyball team and raised the money for the device. She also gives her time to physically challenged children to give them the ability to play baseball, wheelchairs and all.

These are just a few of Rita's accomplishments within our school and community. Her generosity is far reaching. She has touched countless lives directly and indirectly. She commits herself to helping others with a smile on her face. Somehow all of this is accomplished while she holds down a full time job. Rita is certainly worthy of recognition. I hope you will agree.