



In Memoriam: Cynthia Nystrom, a Valued Member of the CCSD Community



It is with deep sorrow that we share the news of the passing of our esteemed fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Nystrom.

Mrs. Cynthia Nystrom has been a pillar of Judy Nelson Elementary School and the Kirtland community for many years. According to her daughter, Mrs. Nystrom began her teaching career in Grace B. Wilson Elementary when her daughter was just five years old. She was looking forward to retiring this year, marking a long and dedicated career of serving 26 years with CCSD.

Teaching and her students were truly her life; she lived for it and loved it deeply. Mrs. Nystrom always talked about her students. Even in her final moments, she expressed concern for her students, asking her daughter to "go hug my kids and tell them it's okay. Go be there for my kids."



Outside of school, Mrs. Nystrom lived on a farm with animals and enjoyed her porch and cows, embracing life. She loved going on adventures, traveling, and seeing new things. Family was also incredibly important to her. She was married and had four children. Her three older grandchildren had lived with her, and she took her grandchildren everywhere; they were her life. Her family was expanding, with a one-year-old granddaughter who shared her birthday and another grandchild expecting in June.

Mrs. Nystrom also organized special events for the children, such as a "petting farm" with their farm animals where students could interact with her horses, cows, and sheep. Her daughter shared that Christmas was her favorite holiday, and she would involve her family in secretly buying toys and clothes for families in need within the community. Her life was dedicated to helping any child who needed it.

