

Name of co-worker who showcased their "better together" spirit:	Name of nominator:	Provide a description of the "better together" incident you witnessed:
Lexi Umlor	Ashley DuBois	When a fellow speech pathologist needed to change their caseload due to a family illness, Lexi was a positive, flexible and agreeable colleague to change her caseload make up and reschedule her groups and home visits to accommodate. Not an easy thing to do this late in the year and taking on more intense children. Thanks for being an awesome team player Lexi!
Amy McNett	Anonymous	Amy listened to her staff and put together a meaningful PD session for them based on needs and topics they wanted to learn more about. She did it in a way that was engaging and allowed for the team to connect. Great job Amy for providing professional development that met the needs of your team. Fantastic leadership!
Erin Rey	Anonymous	It doesn't matter if you are in her room for 10 minutes or 10 years, Erin Rey makes everyone feel like they belong, from staff to students. She quickly learns favorite things and integrates them seamlessly for more enhanced learning opportunities or makes sure she has them on hand for a moment in need of motivation. She goes literally above and beyond to make sure everyone feels success. Because of her amazing work ethic and attitude staff and students are "better" and are excited each day to be "together" with her.
Diane Gavenda	Anonymous	She is consistently helping in the classrooms, she is always ready and willing to assist the staff with the children. She is the one to organized our back pack buddies as well.

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Our Amazing School Psychologists!	Anonymous	Let's take a moment to celebrate our incredible school psychologists! If you didn't know, our team now includes Christa Starkey-Brown, Jordan Boyce, and Hannah Cereske. While November 3–7 was National School Psychology Week, these team members deserve to be recognized every single day. You may not see them often — and yes, they might hand you a stack of rating scales (and even send Austin to remind you to fill them out) — but their positive impact is felt in every whiteboard meeting where they help us collaborate to determine how to best support students in reaching their fullest potential. They're experts at translating complex standardized test scores into parent-friendly language, making data both meaningful and easy to understand — all while sharing a heartwarming or insightful story that captures the student's unique strengths. Through their whole-child, whole-team approach, they bring together insights from everyone to create a complete picture of each student's abilities and needs. While families may only meet with them every three years, those conversations leave lasting impressions — always handled with grace, compassion, and a deep commitment to doing what's best for every child. Our school psychologists truly embody what it means to be "Better Together."
Diane Gavenda	Anonymous	Diane consistently goes above and beyond, wearing many hats to support others beyond her regular job duties. While our organization focuses on supporting students and their families, Diane is always willing to be flexible and step in wherever she's needed to ensure the classrooms and staff at Longview have what they need to succeed. She also takes the time to connect with students and families in positive, meaningful ways — always ensuring they feel seen and valued. Diane's dedication, flexibility, and teamwork make a tremendous difference every day. Thank you, Diane, for all you do!

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Debra Weber	Anonymous	At times, Debra demonstrates incredible flexibility and a willingness to step in and help in other classrooms at Longview whenever needed. She has a natural ability to connect and build strong relationships with our youngest learners while consistently applying strategies that promote student success. Her readiness to support other classrooms in times of need highlights her teamwork, dedication, and commitment to our students and staff. Debra truly embodies what it means to be "Better Together."
Sarah Tebo	Kayla Previti	Sarah Tebo goes above and beyond for her staff and her students. She always makes sure everyone is heard, cared and appreciated. Our room is "better together" because of Mrs. Tebo and the dedication she makes to her students and team!
Wayne Draves	Jennie Coston	Wishing Wayne Draves the best in his pursuit of a Midland County Fair Board Position. It is great to see Midland County ESA employees engaging in the Midland Community.
Alisha Williamson	Anonymous	Alisha works closely with her IEP team members to ensure that students are working towards their goals and receiving the best educational support possible. She utilizes weekly staffings in a productive way. Alisha spends a great deal of time supporting her paraprofessionals in the classroom by taking the time to listen, validating their feelings, and implementing strategies to enable the classroom to remain a positive working environment. She is always open to challenges and problem solving as a team, with staff as well as parents. Alisha also knows how to make her team laugh!