

Shirley Rollins
2002 Friend of Education

At the age of 70, Shirley Rollins is an excellent role model for volunteering in schools. Joy Buteyn, kindergarten teacher at Lincoln Elementary School, says, "Shirley Rollins has given the most precious gift anyone could give of oneself...her time and talent to the service of Lincoln's staff, parents, and especially the dear children over the past five years." Rollins began her volunteer work at Lincoln School when her first grandchild attended kindergarten. As her grandchildren advanced to the next grades, Rollins decided to continue to help in the kindergarten room.

Rollins goes beyond the usual parameters of volunteering at Lincoln in a variety of ways. For the past five years, she has been giving her time every day and all day, if needed, in the Lincoln kindergarten room. When the kindergarten teaching assistant is absent, Rollins voluntarily "subs," not only for the classroom duties, but also for the noon hour lunch duties. Her husband Jim joins her to participate in "Seniors and Seconds," a program designed by Lincoln second grade teacher, Judy Hein. This program connects senior citizens with students in a variety of learning activities. Vision screening is another part of the long list of Rollins' volunteering. Every year, she helps screen all students in the entire school. She also assists in the babysitting service offered at Lincoln School during Parent/Teacher Conferences, gives her help to the school's PTO organization, and assists the Reading Recovery program. When the music teachers need costumes for special student programs, Rollins offers her sewing talents. Buteyn says, "Whenever and wherever someone needs a competent, capable volunteer at our school, our dear friend of education, Shirley Rollins comes to mind immediately!"