

Renton Rotary selects Teachers of the Month for January

January 2019 – As part of their commitment to education, and to celebrate teachers in the Renton School District, each month members of Rotary Club of Renton selects a few teachers as Teacher of the Month.

As part of the recognition, teachers attend Rotary’s Teacher of the Month recognition luncheon held at the Maplewood Golf Course. Each teacher is introduced, makes a brief comment about the school and classroom, and receives \$250 to be used for classroom supplies or instructional materials.

January Teachers of the Month are:

Olivia Haines

Fourth grade teacher at Bryn Mawr Elementary School

Olivia began her college experience at Seattle Pacific University, where she earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education and she is planning to begin the National Board Certification process next school year. Olivia began her teaching career in the Highline School District where she taught fifth grade. She is actively a part of her school’s Leadership Team and co-leads the school’s student council. This is Olivia’s third year teaching in the Renton School District.



Christine Olsen

English Language Learners Teacher at Risdon Middle School

Christine attended Boston University where she earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Education. Before teaching in Renton, Christine spent one year teaching Kindergarten ESL at Community Day Charter Public School and four years teaching middle school ESL at Seven Hills Charter Public School, both of which are in Massachusetts. This is Christine’s second year teaching in the Renton School District.



Melinda Van De Sompele

Fourth Grade Teacher at Renton Park Elementary School

Melinda earned a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Western Washington University. She also earned a Master’s in Teaching with endorsements in K-8 and Economics from City University. Before her current teaching role, Melinda taught middle school creative writing, journalism and living skills; several other elementary grade levels and served as a reading specialist and math specialist. Melinda has been teaching in Renton for nearly 12 years.

