Oakwood Principal Honored for Decade of Service

From Acorns to Oaks…
Where Future Leaders Begin to Grow!

That was the theme of thanks to Jeff Hodakowski on Friday, March 4th, 2011—for his ten years (and still counting…) of service at Oakwood Elementary School. During his first year at Oakwood, he served as the assistant principal; and for the past nine years, he has led the school as principal.

The surprise celebration was orchestrated by hundreds—students, parents, volunteers, community, past and current HPS employees, Jeff's family, PTA, and even members of the Lenoir-Rhyne University Steel Drum Band.

Mr. Hodakowski realized an assembly was planned in the gym—but he had no idea that the afternoon would take a special twist—and place him at the center of attention. After he welcomed the students and they very quickly settled in—Mr. Hodakowski's own two children (who happen to be students at Oakwood) very quickly took over their dad's microphone, and the celebration began.

They crowned their principal (and their dad)---and each grade performed with a special tribute for their principal—with songs, praise and even cheers for Mr. Hodakowski's favorite team—UNC-Chapel Hill.

Several special guests reflected on Mr. Hodakowski's passion for education and thanked him for a job well done and his entire family—including his wife, Christy, her mother and his parents—were all present to join the celebration.

The students presented their principal with a "giving tree" filled with gift certificates to some of Mr. Hodakowski's favorite places in the area. In addition, he was presented with a plaque that thanked him for his service of 10 years—and helping the students to grow from acorns into oaks.

Congratulations Mr. Jeff Hodakowski on a decade of service to Oakwood Elementary!

YOU!

Congratulations

OUR HATS ARE
OFF TO MR. H.

YAMAHA