

“Leave it with me - I’ll make it work!”

“We’ll find a way to make something work. Leave it with me and I’ll think of something”, are words that Mme Helen Griffin always uses - and she always comes through!

We would like to nominate Mme Helen Griffin for the Mensa Canada Distinguished Educator Award. Mme Griffin is the Learning Support Teacher at Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School. She fills in various roles at LAFIPS but what makes her stand out is how much she really cares and always comes through.

We would not be Mensa members without the help of Mme Helen Griffin. Our school board was not using a standard IQ test at the time that we went through testing but Mme Griffin found another route for us to get the required test. She always finds a way to help and is so great at thinking outside the box. This is just one big way she has helped us. Other examples of Mme Griffin going above and beyond are:

Caribou Math Contest:

Mme Griffin started the [Caribou Math Contest](#) at our school. Being part of this world wide math contest has been a really great opportunity for Mensa kids like us. On top of making the contest available to us, she also went out of her way to recognize the students who participated and their amazing results at our school assemblies. It made us all feel so proud that our hard work preparing for the contest wasn’t unnoticed. You can click [here](#) to watch Mme Griffin recognizing all of us who had the courage to participate in the contest and providing praise for our outstanding results. She made us all feel so special.

Beaver Computing Challenge:

Mme Griffin knew how much some of us love new challenges so she arranged for us to have the opportunity to participate in the [Beaver Computing Contest](#), despite running into several last-minute registration hiccups. Click [here](#) to watch Mme Griffin recognizing us at the school assembly.

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Science Fair:

Mme Griffin also organized a school science fair, which we really enjoyed since we love science!

These are just a few examples of the things that Mme Griffin did that affected us, but we know there are many other things that we see that she does all the time for others too. For example, there was a student who was biting their nails to the point of bleeding and she suggested trying silly putty to keep their hands busy and it worked! For a student who couldn’t concentrate on tests when it was noisy, she suggested using noise canceling headphones and they worked like a charm too.

This is just the tip of the iceberg of the things that Mme Griffin does to make a difference. We feel so lucky and excited to have Mme Helen Griffin always looking out for us and feel she really deserves to receive the Mensa Distinguished Educator Award.

Sincerely,

Alessandro De Menech (age 13)
Mensa Member #32773

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