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To Whom It May Concern:

Danna Blackburn has been a trustee with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board for three terms. During this time I have come to know her through her work and participation regarding support of the community.

During 2016 I was the Principal of Carson Grove Elementary School, which is a R.A.I.S.E. school. This designation by the Board indicates it to be one of the most needy schools in the system. It is also a highly multicultural school.

In the spring of that year we welcomed one hundred Syrian refugee students within three months. This was indeed an exciting and challenging time. Many changes needed to be made in order to accommodate the children. Teachers were hired and equipment and furniture were acquired. Although the Board provided the basics there was always a need for additional learning materials.

Ms. Blackburn contacted me and informed me that through her community she had raised money to support new Syrian students. Although my school was not in her catchment area, she made a substantial donation. This contribution greatly supported the learning environment of our Syrian students. Needless to say these resources contributed to enhancing the education of all of the students in the school. She has also attended three of our Annual Multicultural Dinners. We are most appreciative of Ms. Blackburn's contribution.

Over the years I have seen Ms. Blackburn support several multicultural events. She has regularly attended the Ottawa Muslim Women Organization's annual dinner and fundraiser.

In my experience with Ms. Blackburn I have observed her to be supportive and respectful of students, parents, teachers and Principals. She has shown herself to be inclusive with all cultures, races and religions.

Sincerely,

Irene Cameron
Retired Principal
Ottawa Carleton District School Board