

Middle Schools create a supportive environment to reach all adolescent learners. Students at Titusville Middle School celebrate learning achievements AND nurture their "inner authors" through...

# MIDDLE MATTERS

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## Around the Middle School

## Krystal

By: Victoria Bodamer



Spring is in the air, and with it comes a busy time of year for our TMS students! Students have just completed their PSSA tests, and after 2 days of testing, students had Exploratory activities. One group of teachers took students to Lin Van Lanes for the afternoon.



There was this woman and she had a three year old daughter at the time. She met this amazing boy and they got together. But this is no story like any you have heard. This woman's name is Krystal and she found out about a year ago that she had breast cancer. Now imagine how hard that would be having to take chemotherapy with a three-year-old daughter.

going through all of this. I know if I had cancer, losing my hair and being sad would have destroyed me, but she did not let that take her down. She was very nice and respectful through it all, and I am glad to have her in my life as a role model.

Because Krystal found this man, her life was so much easier. My Uncle Ken helped Krystal with her three-year-old daughter during chemo. Krystal fought cancer and eventually defeated it. But Krystal is an amazing person, and I am so glad that she could become my soon to be Aunt! Krystal is my role model because she is strong, she kept a positive attitude while going through this tough spot in her life, and she is really responsible.

Krystal is a very nice person. She helps with a lot of things, for example, cleaning the house and giving the dogs a bath when they stink! This demonstrates that no matter what she went through, she was almost always happy; she did not really let cancer take her down!

Krystal was and still is a very responsible person. She still took care of her three year old daughter did even when she was hurting. Now one thing I do know is that she got swollen ankles, and I think she called them kankles! She was funny through it all. She helped her daughter take a bath and make dinner and clean the house, and she is one of the kindest people I know because of this.

Krystal is an amazing person because she is very strong. She is strong because she kept fighting cancer while having to take care of her daughter, telling her work that she would not be in for a while - so she just decided to quit so it would be easier for her. While she was going through chemo, she was a very good person to look up to because of how strong she was.

She was cleaning her house while she was hurting, she would give her daughter a bath, and she would come and visit her family and go out to eat. But one of the hardest things for her I believe was losing her hair; she was not too happy about it because she was worried what her daughter would think. Well, her daughter Aubrey was okay with it. Eventually Krystal got a wig and started going to work at a new job while still taking chemo. She was very strong during this situation and still is!

Krystal kept a positive attitude during chemo even though chemo destroys you. She had kept a positive attitude while all of this was happening. She would laugh and be very polite even though she was most likely feeling down during this time.

Cancer does a lot of stuff to you. It makes you lose your hair, it makes you sick, and it also makes you sad. But for Krystal, she kept a positive attitude while



## My Sibling Role Model

By: Jasmine Lovin

When my older brother Derrick went to sign up for the Navy, they told him that he was too big. So Derrick went on a diet and exercised every day for months. I watched him change over weeks, and I remember him buying a weight bench and lifting everyday after dinner. He inspired me by never giving up and working towards my goals. My older brother Derrick is my role model due to how hardworking, honest, and brave he is.

My older brother is a very hard working person, he never gives up on anything that he puts his mind to. He always seems to get things done; he never lets himself slack off when he puts his mind to something. I believe that being so hardworking helped Derrick get into the Navy. I know that he wouldn't be in the navy without being so hard working and sure of himself. Derrick is one of the most honest, bravest and hardworking person I know.

Derrick is a very honest person, and he is honest in the nicest ways. Derrick doesn't lie to people, and he is never rude about it either. He says the truth in a way that they get the point. I know this because I remember a time that he accidentally broke our shower on one of his visits. Derrick told the truth to my parents; they were

mad at first but because he told the truth it just turned into a embarrassing and funny story I like to tell. By telling the truth, Derrick taught me that telling the truth is a lot better than lying, Derrick is a great role model because of this reason.

Being brave is another reason that Derrick is my role model. Derrick is in the Navy so he is never really around. I believe that this makes him brave because he is still fighting in a way for our country. I couldn't handle not being home for months to a year without my family, so I respect him for being so brave. Even before he was in the Navy, Derrick would always be kayaking in the rapids of a nearby river. Being so brave is just another one of the many reasons that he is my role model.

To conclude, Derrick is a very hardworking, honest and brave role model. He has taught me many things, and showed me how to do things the way he does. Derrick taught me how to be brave when I go through something hard, and how to be honest when I mess up. Derrick taught me to never give up on my goals no matter what. I learn so much from Derrick every time I see him. Derrick is a great role model due to all of the amazing things he does and doesn't do every time he comes to visit.

## My Role Model

By: Hailey Willis

An anonymous person once said, "My Grandma has ears that truly listen, Arms that always hold. A love that's never ending and a heart made of GOLD." This quote reminds me of My Grandma. My two brothers and I have lived with my grandma since we were very young, my Grandma has been there through everything with us. She was there for all of our birthday when our parents couldn't be. She would give us everything we would ever need or ask for; she would give us the world if she could. My Grandma Donna Turner is my role model because she is hardworking, helpful and caring.

My Grandma is hardworking. She took my brothers and I in when we were young. She has been taking care of us for many years. She gave up her job when I was eight or nine, just to make sure she could be there for us. My Grandma has been through thick and thin to get us what we need, or to make sure we were taken care of. My Grandma works very hard everyday to help us kids. I don't know what we would do without her; she truly is my role model.

My Grandma is VERY helpful. Whenever one of us kids needs something, she will try her best and work her hardest to get it for us. My grandma has been helping us for so many years, When we were younger, she would help us with homework and make sure we would pass. She would teach us how to cook, and my grandma even taught me how to shuffle cards. But now that we are older, we help her and try to give back for all she has done for us. One thing that my Grandma taught

me that I will never forget is: Just because we grew up not having everything everyone else had doesn't make us any different than the rest of the world. This means a lot to me and my brothers because we have all struggled, and she was there for us. My Grandma has been there since day one, giving us what we need and helping us through everything.

My Grandma is caring. If one of us kids are having a bad day or going through some stuff, she will take the time to listen and ask what's wrong. She cares about everyone. There isn't one person that she would turn away if they needed help. My Grandma cares for all of us kids; every day she is there for us. My Grandma takes the time every morning to make us kids breakfast. Even though we don't ask her to, she does it because she loves and cares about us. She truly is my role model.

My Grandma has been there since my brothers and I were very young. She's planned every birthday and made sure every holiday we were around friends and family who love us. She has done her best and still is doing everything she can for us kids. She has given up so much in the past so she could support us kids.

Now that we are older, we can try to give back for all she has done. If we didn't have my grandma, then we wouldn't be where we are today. My grandma is a strong, smart, beautiful, unique woman, and I have no idea what I would do without her. My grandma, Donna Turner, is my role model because she is hardworking, helpful and caring.