

2017 Dale For Cornerstone Award Honoree

JODY COX

RESIDES: GAHANNA, OHIO

Jody Cox, a Gahanna resident for more than 30 years, has been a supporter of Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools since 1995.

"I brought my son to kindergarten at High Point Elementary, and I haven't left since!" Cox said. "At the time, I had my daughter on my hip. My third child was born in 2000, and I'll have spent nearly 25 years in the district when he graduates."

Cox began her volunteer career by attending elementary PTA meetings. From there, her "yes" attitude kept her involved with the publishing center, family fun events, and her favorite - reading night - which has become an annual High Point tradition. Students, parents, and staff look forward to the evening, which includes acting out stories with a emphasis on the current reading curriculum.

"I VOLUNTEER FOR THE GOOD OF OUR COMMUNITY. I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT ANY DIFFERENTLY."

"I continued to stay involved as my kids moved to Middle School East and the high school," said Cox. "It takes a lot of time and a lot of work, but I love taking care of the teachers. It's never been about me."

"I knew you from working on the Gahanna-Jefferson Education Foundation gala," said fellow Cornerstone Award inductee Carole Bickel. "You were always there."

Aside from her work for the schools and the Gahanna-Jefferson Education Foundation, Cox also spent time supporting levy campaigns. She

led the "Mine +9" initiative, encouraging parents at each school to support the district for the good of the community.

"We moved to Gahanna because of the schools," said Cox. "All my close friendships have been built just by being in the district and working with people. The reason I continue to volunteer is because if I want the schools to stay great, they can't do that all on their own."



Cox has been married for 35 years, and they have three children (Alex, Rachel, and Eric) who all attended Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools.