

Date: March 11, 2021

Contact: Jon Weidlich, Great Oaks, 513.612.3609

Gary Schuster receives Compassion Award



Gary Shuster, a Great Oaks satellite instructor at Princeton Community Middle School, was honored this week with the 2020 Eric Scott Compassion Award, given by the Great Oaks Education Foundation.

The award is given to the Great Oaks associate who has best contributed to an organizational culture that embraces the diverse strengths and goals of students and associates. It was presented to Schuster at the March Great Oaks Board of

Directors meeting by Devona Scott and Foundation representative Jim Perdue.

In nominating Schuster, fellow instructor Miranda Spivey wrote “He cares about ALL students, making many modifications to assignments and fighting for them to get supplies they deserve to receive. He also has proven to care about ALL staff, especially the underdog.” She said that he was a leading force on the Equity Council during his time at the Live Oaks Career campus and cited his participation in equity experiences for students. “He participated in ‘One Degree Shift,’ a professional development focused on diversity, and led the way in organizing a student exchange between Princeton and Madeira,” Spivey wrote. She said that Schuster fought to ensure that all his students had materials, technology, and proper assignments during the pandemic, and has also advocated for benefits for all staff members.

The award is named in memory of Eric Scott, a long-time Great Oaks Career Campuses associate who passed away in March 2017. Scott was a founding member of the District Equity Council, a group dedicated to promoting respect, equity and success at each of the Great Oaks campuses. He served on the leadership of the Equity Council for nearly ten years.