



Gina Solis

Eagle Canyon teacher Gina Solis nominated for county's Education Medal of Honor

Gina Solis was so active at Eagle Canyon Elementary School as a parent that the school staff knew they could expect great things when she became a teacher there years later.

Solis, an Intervention Teacher at Eagle Canyon for the last two years, has been nominated for the Education Medal of Honor that will be announced at a banquet of the San Bernardino County School Boards Association on April 27 in Rancho Cucamonga.

Solis is one of 32 nominees in six categories up for the honor in the county. She was nominated for the Excellence in Education/Education Professional category by Eagle Canyon Principal Laurie Warner.

The Chino Hills resident began her association with Eagle Canyon several years ago when she took a break from her teaching career to focus on her own children who attended the school. She served on the PTA Board as both president and vice president “where she poured her heart out volunteering for every activity and event at our school site,” wrote Warner in her nomination letter for Solis.

In the 1990s, Solis earned her multiple subject teaching credential at Cal Poly, Pomona. She previously taught in the El Monte City School District as a substitute teacher, classroom teacher and homeschool teacher. She also taught at Rio Hondo School in Arcadia.

Beginning in 2013, she served as a substitute teacher for the Chino Valley Unified School District in grades kindergarten through sixth. She was hired as an Intervention Teacher at Eagle Canyon in August 2015.

She has served as a Girl Scout Troop Leader, Eagle Canyon Drama Club Coordinator, and Eagle Canyon Safe School Ambassadors (anti-bullying student group) advisor. She has also served on the Eagle Canyon PTA as president, and is currently its vice president. In addition, she has been the Ayala High School Spirit Booster Club Historian since 2015.

Solis took on the Eagle Canyon Talent Show and 49er's Day (early California history program) to keep both programs going after teachers who had coordinated those programs retired, Warner said. Solis also began an after school Eagle Canyon Drama Club by collaborating with a retired Eagle Canyon teacher, the principal said.

"We knew that hiring Gina Solis meant that she would continue on with us at Eagle Canyon well past her own children's school years and continue to impact our community with her leadership skillsets," Warner said. "However, the biggest impact that she has made has truly been in the lives of each and every one of the intervention students. (They) practically run to her classroom because she has created an environment where students love to be."