

HOMETOWN HERO:

Mary Frank

“By teaching them not only strategies for living but also strategies for advocacy, they empower students on the spectrum to reach their full potential.”

Mrs. Einolf and Mrs. Frank have dedicated themselves to helping and celebrating students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. They routinely attend events outside of their 'typical schedule' to further their professional development and expertise in ASD, but they also do so to celebrate the successes of their students. For example, two of their students were in a recent production of *Seussical* at Old Mill and they made sure they attended, recognized the students' efforts, and stayed after the production to visit with their students.

Mrs. Einolf and Mrs. Frank clearly care deeply for their students on the spectrum, and this fuels their desire to assist them. They anticipate potential issues (for example, pep rallies or dances) and work on strategies proactively.

They truly advocate for their students and they promote awareness of ASD-related issues with other educators. Not only do they assist with advocating for ASD in general, but they help their students to advocate for themselves.

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