

**Francine Slaughter**, our attendance clerk at Northern Elementary, handles difficult front-office issues with professionalism and great compassion. One Friday afternoon, a mother – exhausted from the emotional stress of not finding her child at the bus stop – nearly collapsed trying to get through the door. Slaughter calmed the frantic parents and reassured them as she speedily went through every system and channel necessary to solve their problem. The entire leadership staff and office personnel had already left for the day, but she was well-equipped with proper procedures and follow-through. As you can imagine, both parents were quite relieved when she found the student. Ms. Slaughter is a shining example of a true Northern Knight. It is refreshing to see there are still people who can be counted on to respond with empathy that goes beyond the skill, competence and character of the norm.

– Submitted by Carrie Jackman, teacher, Northern Elementary