

## Book Buddy of the Semester - Indy Gandy!



We are extremely honored to nominate, Mr. Jerry Gandy, better known as “Indy” as the Book Buddy of 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Although, he started as a mentor in our Goal Buddy program at Conestoga in 2015, he began his Book Buddy journey at Skinner Magnet in 2016 and is in his second year of being a change agent for both Kindergarten and Pre-K students.

It may seem that reading to children appears to be easy, but when you have a classroom of lively students watching your every move, you don’t realize the enormous pressure that a Book Buddy may face each month. “Indy” handles this pressure as only a seasoned veteran can. He maintains a high standard when it comes to engaging with his audience made up of 3-5 years old students and shows them you are never too old to enjoy a good book.

The personal interest Indy takes in his classrooms shows through his actions both big and small and never looks for recognition because he does everything from his heart. Most recently, he noticed that his classrooms were missing train sets, so he presented them both trains with tables for each room.

In addition to his selfless service to students, he was also a big part of helping P4K to receive a grant to support a “Laptop Lending Library” for our high school and college students, which will give them the extra advantage in their academics.

Indy is a one-of-a-kind Book Buddy mentor and we think that this honor is fitting of his service, not only to our country, but to our program from Pre-K to careers. THANK YOU INDY... for bringing your heart, joyous laughter and all your valiant efforts to be an amazing role model to our most precious young readers.

Nominated by:

Rhonda Freeman, Program Coordinator  
Yolanda “Ms. Yo” Williams, Elementary Program Manager