

## October Spotlight Support Staff: Mary T. Mohr, Paraprofessional

*“Life in the middle school is an adventure not a job.” ~Angela K. Bennett*



Mary Mohr started working in the kitchen in 2016 and then moved on to helping elementary students. This year she is helping these same students as they take on the challenge of junior high. Mary is married to Ken. They have seven kids, 15 grandchildren, four horses, five minis, two potbelly pigs, and four dogs.

Mary grew up in North Dakota, near Jamestown. Her family owned and ran a restaurant/lounge. Mary enjoyed her young life spending her free time riding horses with family and friends. Mary continues to enjoy this to this day.

**Why did you choose to work at a school?** My love of kids brought me to this school.

**What did you do before coming to Clearbrook-Gonvick?** I've held several positions in life, from a cook to a homemaker, ranch worker to L&M Fleet employee. The longest favorite was raising quarter horses.

**What is the best part of your job at Clearbrook-Gonvick?** The best part of my job is watching the kids succeed and getting to know all of the wonderful teachers and staff here at Clearbrook-Gonvick.

**What is the biggest challenge of your job?** The biggest challenge is letting the kids fail once in awhile. It's hard to not do the work for them.

**If you could have any job in the world - what would it be? Why?** I would run a huge quarter horse ranch in Texas. This is something I've always dreamed of doing since I was a child.

**What do you do when you are not working at the school?** My husband and I travel to see our children and grandchildren. When we aren't doing that, I am out playing with or riding my horses.

**What is something you really enjoy about the fall season?** I love riding through the colorful state parks. Fall is the most beautiful weather for this hobby.

**What are your favorite aspects of the Clearbrook-Gonvick community?** The Clearbrook-Gonvick community has always been a warm and inviting place. The people are always friendly and willing to help.

*And now a few comments from the staff and students about Mary.* “She has a big heart for kids, is willing to step in where needed, always has a smile and ‘good morning’ for me in the morning, and is willing to learn new things in order to be able to help students better.” “Mary is always energetic and excited about the day!! She comes in the room and is singing ‘GOOD MORNING, GOOD MORNING!’” “Mary took on the challenge this year of moving with students from the elementary to the high school. She has risen to the challenge and has the mindset that she will succeed and so will the students she works with!” “I am thankful that Mary helps me in my schoolwork. Sometimes she makes me work too hard, but that is ok.” “Mary, thanks for all your hard work and dedication to our district!” “Mary helps me make the right choices.” “I appreciate her smiles and ‘hellos’.” “Mary has rules, but yet, she is nice.”