

## February 2018 Cycle of Personal Ownership

Winner

## Nominee

## **Details**

Fiber Team: Dustin Bristow, Chad Paine, Brent Simmons, Kory Countryman, and Eleanour Hunstock

This fiber team hosted an event for middle and high school students, Careers After School, which was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, STEM Academy, and our own Visitor Services group. The team put together a mock-up of our outside plant fiber system that included several stations where the students and parents could get real hands-on experience with our technology. Our team took personal ownership of the event, spending many hours developing the presentations, and displayed many of our District values throughout the night. Chamber representative, Diana Haglund said it best when she thanked us all with the following; "Thank you to the fiber team for creating an engaging and memorable career learning experience. The activities were fun, informative and enriching and the staff was extremely passionate about their work." She went on to say that many of our youth have barriers to success and it can be hard for them to envision themselves in the future. Our team and staff took the time to engage the students and share some professional and personal stories. I believe that our team was equally impressed with the students interest in our program and came away with some new insights into our responsibilities and impacts we can have with the youth of our community. We all realized the positive effects we can have on young people simply be engaging in conversations and sharing our own experiences. Along with encouraging the students, this type of event helps educators and adults better understand our role in the community and the jobs right here in our own backyards. I also believe that the team exhibited trustworthiness and stewardship, two additional District values, introducing the students to careers and employers, that they may not be familiar with, through hands-on learning. Exhibiting these STEM skills and tools brings the real world to the students and increases their learning experience beyond what just reading about it can bring.