

## Island school official is saluted

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Question: Which school transportation supervisor teaches students the Vulcan hand gesture from Star Trek?

Answer: Grand Island's Jack P. Burns.

He has made the iconic Vulcan salute, often followed by the famous line "Live Long and Prosper," into the "secret bus driver safety sign" to instill in the district's 3,300 students the importance of school bus safety, said Loraine A. Ingrasci, assistant superintendent for finance.

She wrote a letter nominating Burns for an Award for Excellence in administration that he will receive today from the Western New York Educational Service Council.

Burns is among 14 honorees from eight school districts who will be recognized by the organization affiliated with the University at Buffalo Graduate School of Education at its annual Awards for Excellence banquet in the Buffalo Niagara Marriott, Amherst.

The other honorees:

- Superintendents: Randolph's Kimberly Moritz and Lancaster's Edward Myszka.
- Administrators: Joanne Saniewski, principal of Frontier's Big Tree Elementary; Richard Schaefer, principal of Eden Elementary; and Michael Vallely, Lancaster's assistant superintendent of curriculum, instruction and pupil services.
- Teachers: Paula Chalifoux, Eden Central primary; Salvatrice "Sally" Maroney, Depew literacy support; Joanne Pletscher, Alden kindergarten; Alan Scott, special education, physical education, Randolph Academy; and Maria Wilcox, Spanish, Frontier High School.
- Support staff: Kris Passinault, Frontier clerk-typist; Barbara Thomasulo, Eden confidential secretary; and Marianne Vriesen, Alden teacher's aide.