



Taylor Zolnoski Receives Scholarship From Lightbridge Academy

By Robert Ramirez
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CRANFORD – The Cranford Lightbridge Academy awarded Taylor Zolnoski its first of a soon to be annual senior scholarship award.

“It’s an honor to give such a positive award to such a special young lady,” said Dina Duffy, an executive director of Cranford’s Lightbridge Academy. “

“Her teachers were so excited for her,” added Liz Bilder, a director at the Lightbridge Academy. “They were extremely supportive and enthusiastic about the choice of Taylor.”

Zolnoski was awarded the scholarship due to her academic achievement, leadership, and community involvement.

She has spent her senior year dedicating her time to teaching others every opportunity she gets. Enrolled in the child development program, Zolnoski helped run the “Cougar Cubs,” a program in which she taught a preschool class. Zolnoski also helped teach a dance class for special needs children, which she referred to as “one of the most rewarding experiences” of her life.

Upon graduation, Zolnoski will head to the University of South Florida, where she will study elementary education. As part of her senior studies, Zolnoski was also able to teach high school classes this year, but found elementary classes suit her better.

Zolnoski's choice to head out of state came down to the programs and opportunities the University of South Florida offers.

"Their program is amazing," said Zolnoski. "They offer the chance to go study abroad and teach in Cambridge and Costa Rica. Also, in your junior and senior years, you get full experience in elementary schools around the Tampa area. I found it super interesting, and would love to see out both of those experiences."

Zolnoski is the middle of three children, and knew from an early age that she would become a teacher. Growing up, Zolnoski would play "School" where she pretended that her younger sister was her student.

Though her time at Cranford High School is coming to an end this week, Zolnoski is ready and excited for the next chapter of her life.

"I feel ready and prepared to go," said Zolnoski. "I think I've checked everything off of my list that I wanted to accomplish here."