

# *Michael Temesy*

Mike Temesy is known around Tecumseh Vista Academy affectionately as Mr. Mike. It might be because Magic Mike was already taken and may have certain pop culture connotations which might not be appropriate for a school environment.

But there certainly is something magical about Mike. Who else can make helping him pick up garbage be perceived as a reward?

As the day custodian at TVA, Mike has 1600 students, thousands of square feet and 30 acres of property to attend to. He's pretty good at his job, but he is described by both students and staff for his other qualities: "An outstanding person"; "A wonderful human being" and "a real gentleman".

A couple areas that often get special attention from Mike are the GAINS and STEPS classrooms. Sometimes there are students that are having a tough time. He makes an extra effort to talk to them and listen when they think they aren't being heard.

He kids around with everyone. "He is hilarious" is the description from students in one classroom and they recalled the time when he lowered one student's desk and put caution tape around her things as one of his better practical jokes.

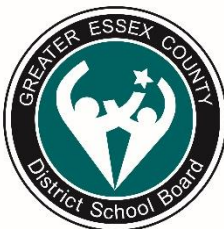
Mike is also quite enchanting to staff. He is often seen running from one end of the school to the other – and if you've ever been to Tecumseh Vista, you'll know that's a considerable distance.

"How can I help?" is his standard response to a call, after he catches his breath.

Mike will often run out at lunch and get coffee for the office staff or his fellow custodians. He'll do whatever he can to make someone's day or job a little easier.

He takes advantage of every opportunity to participate in school activities and special events. Apparently, he's got some pretty awesome socks he breaks out for World Down Syndrome Awareness Day.

There is certainly something wizardly about Mr. Mike. He can make frowns as well as messes disappear. He seemingly has the ability to be in more than one place at any time. He has the whole TVA school community, and now the entire Board spellbound with his Outstanding Service.



*Greater Essex County District School Board*

*Outstanding Service Award, May 8, 2019*