

# Dr. Michele Wilson

## Westview High School

### *2016 Rodel Exemplary Principal Finalist*

#### **Learning from a mentor**

“ My mentor taught me how very important it is to focus and trust one another through the constant change process. It is our school together. We are making the very best school we can, knowing there is constant, systemic change. In order to do this we have to focus and genuinely trust one another—and have fun!

#### **A tip for new principals**

“ When you are new principal, you will want a really good mentor you can trust. A good mentor will listen and help you stay focused so that you don't feel like you have to do everything in your first year.

#### **Setting high expectations**

“ In order to communicate high expectations, everyone knows and models the organizational expectations. Our expectations are the mission, vision, and values articulated into daily practice. We use traditional tools to communicate: the website, marquee, daily announcements, staff handbooks, email, weekly communication, PBIS exploratory, etc.



#### **Dr. Michele Wilson**

Westview High School

Tolleson Union High School District

2,450 students in grades 9-12

**Experience:** 28 years in education including ten years as a classroom teacher, six years as an instructional specialist, seven years as an assistant principal, one year as special education director, and four years as a high school principal; currently serving on district's Technology Committee, Professional Development Committee and Meet and Confer Committee, as the district Administrator's Association President, and on the AdvancED Review Committee

**Degrees:** B.A. in Education from Arizona State University; M.A. in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University; Ed.D. in Leadership and Innovation from Arizona State University; Elementary Education Teaching Certification; K -12 Administrative Certification; Secondary CTE Certification: Provisional Business and Marketing & Education and Training

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**Rodel, in partnership with Social Venture Partners Arizona, developed the Rodel Exemplary Principal Initiative to recognize outstanding school principals and populate a pipeline of highly skilled school leaders for Arizona's most challenging schools.**

The Rodel Exemplary Principals are selected for their demonstrated ability to lead high-need schools to success by inspiring their staffs to develop a campus that is high achieving, safe, orderly and welcoming.

Each cohort of Exemplary Principals provides professional development, field experience and mentorship to a class of Rodel Aspiring Principals. After learning from the best, Rodel Aspiring Principals are better prepared to lead their own high-need schools.

**The 2016 Rodel Exemplary Principals will be announced on January 10 at [www.rodelaz.org](http://www.rodelaz.org).**