

Polly Ann Kimminau

La Cima Middle School

2016 Rodel Exemplary Teacher Finalist

Engaging students

“ My students must understand the importance of what they are learning in class, whether it be for future success in higher math or building confidence in life skills. My students know what they are doing in class is exceptional and rigorous and that it takes hard work to succeed. Engagement is natural in my class because I have set up the expectation that ALL students *can* do and are expected to do. Through this expectation, my students succeed!

Collaborating for student success

“ My work with the math department Professional Learning Communities has greatly benefitted my students. During our PLC time, we (the math teachers) spend time creating common assessments, reviewing and editing our Scope and Sequences, and reflecting on student work. Because of this time each week, I am better able to support my students' learning and ensure they are getting the rigorous curriculum set forth by Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards.

A tip for parents

“ I would like to tell parents that it is vital to keep the communication lines open with your child's school. It doesn't matter what grade their student is in...Communication is KEY to student success!



Polly Ann Kimminau
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Amphitheater Public Schools

Seventh grade Math

Experience: Twenty-nine years in education, all in the Amphitheater School District, including fourteen years as a 6-8 grade math teacher, one year as a Career Ladder Facilitator at the district, and fourteen years as a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher; currently serving as the School Improvement Specialist, AVID Site Coordinator, Math Liaison to the PTO, and member of the Student Advisory Team; previously served on the math textbook adoption committee; was National Board Certified in Early Adolescence Math

Degrees: B.A. in Education from the University of Arizona; M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix; Math Endorsement; ESL Endorsement

The Rodel Exemplary Teacher Initiative honors extraordinary teachers and asks that they each mentor high-potential student teachers.

What sets the program apart from typical student teaching programs is that mentor teachers are selected based on their outstanding student achievement in high-need schools, their ability to mentor new teachers, and the recommendation of their principals and Rodel's observation team. This ensures that student teachers are learning from the best. In addition, Rodel provides further training and support to both mentors and student teachers to assure Promising Student Teacher Graduates start their careers as outstanding educators.

Since 2004, 167 Rodel Exemplary Teachers have been named and more than 650 Rodel Promising Student Teachers have been mentored.

The 2016 Rodel Exemplary Teachers will be announced on November 29 at www.rodelaz.org.