



For Immediate Release



Media contact:

Tmber DeLong 623-925-3403

tdelong@besd33.org

Videos, photos and interviews available

Buckeye Elementary Teacher Selected as Rodel Exemplary Teacher

Amy Tixier is first Rodel winner representing BESD

November 30, 2015, (Buckeye, Arizona) – Amy Tixier, [BESD](#) master teacher has been selected as an Exemplary Teacher for the 2016 [Rodel](#) Exemplary Teacher Award. 15 Rodel Exemplary Teachers were named statewide out of 24 finalists and 43 semifinalists with Tixier being chosen as one of them. Amy is a third grade teacher at Inca Elementary School in the Buckeye School District. She has spent the last five years in education including one year as a third-grade teacher, one year as a kindergarten English Language Development teacher, and three years as a second-grade teacher.

Amy is an active member of her profession, currently serving on the Arizona K-12 Standards Subcommittee, grade level team leader, Positive Behavior Intervention System Tier 1 leader, member of the Curriculum Mapping Team and District Advisory Committee; and also has previously served as a trainer for programs areas in Thinking Maps and Write from the Beginning. Her education includes a B.A. in Elementary Education and M.Ed. in Elementary Education from Northern Arizona University; a Reading Specialist Endorsement; and a Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Endorsement. Amy is currently pursuing a Doctoral degree in Organizational Development in K-12 Settings from Grand Canyon University.

According to Amy, “The best part of teaching is being able to inspire students to be their best. I love when students rise to the educational challenges and high expectations that I set and conquer them with hard work and determination. At the end of the day, their success makes everything worth it. Receiving this award means I will continue to inspire not only the students but also future teachers. I am humbled and honored to be a Rodel Exemplary Teacher.”

Dr. Kristi Sandvik, BESD Superintendent is, “Thrilled for Amy, her students, school and the entire district. This is a wonderful feather in the BESD cap and one of the reasons we are “Passionate about Student Success.” Amy is the first teacher in BESD to be chosen for this award and she truly represents the very best in our profession.”

The Rodel Exemplary Teacher Initiative honors extraordinary teachers and asks that they each mentor high potential student teachers from local colleges of education. 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 well-prepared, effective educators.

###