

2009 Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year



Jayne Huseby
Amphitheater High School, Amphitheater Unified School District

Hailing from Cleveland, Ohio, Jayne Huseby was hired to work at Amphitheater High School in Tucson, Arizona in August of 2004, where she was given the daunting task of developing a cohesive and collaborative team of teachers whose focus was English language learners. From the start, Jayne came in with a vision and a desire to change the way everyone viewed and worked with ELL students.

Jayne quickly proved to be a valuable asset to the team and to the department. Her innovative thought process, and creative way of delivering staff development, earned her appreciation and gratitude. In the classroom, she and her dedicated team of teachers have developed a curriculum that is based on the Arizona Academic Standards, English Language Proficiency Standards and the Discrete Skills Inventory. Under Jayne's leadership, the ELD department at Amphitheater High School had already set a foundation of ELD coursework which allowed for an easy transition into the four-hour ELD block.

Jayne's classroom is always focused on the student, and she is always thinking of ways to improve that focus. She goes beyond the average teacher work day. She implemented a "Parent Class" at Amphitheater High School which meets every Thursday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and has over twenty parents learning "English in a Flash". Jayne works with parents to develop the necessary skills to understand English. When the Language Acquisition Department came up with the idea of holding summer school for ELL students in the four-hour block, Jayne was once again a key component and advocate. She reviewed each student's qualifications and needs to see what courses were needed to help receive credit toward graduation.

Jayne has attended various conferences to help gain the knowledge base she needed. From the National Refugee Conference, to OELAS, to SIOP and SDAIE training, she has never been one to shy away from gaining any kind of knowledge. She has been a presenter for the Accelerated Reader program and has become one of the program's champions.