

ADE EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT & RETENTION NEWSLETTER



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Educator Appreciation

May includes Teacher Appreciation Week- and oh my goodness, we APPRECIATE Arizona's educators!

As the 20/21 school year winds down, we hope that everyone has the opportunity to pat themselves on the back for going above and beyond during the most challenging year in education in our lifetime.

We hope that you felt the love from your school and your community, and just know that we are so grateful to have the BEST educators in the world, right here in Arizona. Our students are lucky to have you and ADE appreciates everything you do day in and day out.

THANK YOU!

Current Projects

May Teacher Table Talk-

The Educator Recruitment and Retention team and our Exceptional Student Services Recruitment and Retention team are excited to host the next Teacher Table Talk on May 26 from 3-4:30p.

Any educator may sign up for this event, and we are especially encouraging our SPED, resource, and gifted education teachers to sign up so we can hear your perspectives on the profession. Sign up by filling out this form:

<https://forms.gle/fpRhs6QbZeDKeAa89>



June 9-11, 2021

Wednesday, June 9, 2021
8:00am - 4:00pm

Thursday, June 10, 2021
8:00am - 4:00pm

Friday, June 11, 2021
8:00am - 12:00pm

Teachers Institute/School Counselors' Institute/Leading Change-

Remember to sign up for this amazing conference before it's too late! The ERR team has a session at Leading Change focusing on our work and research regarding Principal Supervisors. We also have a session at the Teachers Institute seeking input from teachers on our newly developed Teacher Leader Professional Model Standards and a possible new Teacher Leader endorsement. We would love to see you there.

Click [HERE](#) to register today- spots almost full!



Teach Camp 2.0! Teach Camp is a year-long support system for beginning special education teachers. The goal of Teach Camp is to increase the retention of special educators by providing our newest special education teachers with the tools they need to survive and thrive during their first years in the classroom. Teach Camp is designed for special education teachers who will begin their first, second, or third year of teaching special education in the fall of 2021 and will kick-off virtually July 7-9, 2021. Registration is now open. For more information, visit the [Teach Camp webpage](#). Please email ESSRandR@azed.gov with any questions.

Don't forget!

The Arizona K12 Center provides a robust system of support for teachers pursuing National Board Certification. Whether you teach in remote and rural areas of the state or in the urban core you can pursue National Board Certification. To learn more about the support the Arizona K12 Center provides, you can visit: <https://www.azk12.org/national-board-candidate-program/overview>.

AZ K12 has funding now to support up to 200 Arizona teachers interested in pursuing National Board Certification in the 2021-2022 school year. The first step is to sign up for the Pre-Candidacy Class that will take place virtually this summer from June 10, 2021 through July 29, 2021. The registration deadline for the summer National Board cohort is May 27, 2021. To learn more and to register, please visit: <https://www.azk12.org/PreCan2021>. You can also direct any questions to nbnow@azk12.org.

Issue Spotlight: Teacher Appreciation Day



Did you know?

Teacher Appreciation Day is not just a popular trend, it's also an official national day of recognition. We can thank Eleanor Roosevelt for that. Another fun fact, National Teacher Appreciation Day is also known, simply, as National Teacher Day. As the origin story goes, in an effort to build greater support, a teacher began writing letters to Ms. Roosevelt, with appeals to the first lady to advocate for teachers. The result of that teacher's campaign for her profession was success in convincing Ms. Roosevelt to join the cause and push for teacher recognition. In turn, Ms. Roosevelt convinced Congress to take action and establish a specific day to honor teachers. While many began celebrating National Teacher Day in 1953, it ultimately took 27 years for Teacher Appreciation Day to become an official national day of recognition.

National Teacher Day is on the first Tuesday of the first full week of May. This school year, the day of recognition fell on May 4th. We all can think of favorite or memorable teachers that made our time in school better in some way. Many of you reading this now hold the special role of "favorite teacher" for your students. Our hope is that the dedicated teachers of our state, along with teachers everywhere, felt especially recognized and valued this Teacher Appreciation season, particularly during this unique year.

Let's celebrate!

The Educator Recruitment and Retention team created a [permanent webpage](#) to showcase notable achievements and highlight some of the award-worthy work our educators do for Arizona students. Join us as we Celebrate The Profession, and honor educators who lead and affect their classrooms and communities. If you have an educator award you want listed, email us at teach@azed.gov

Survey says...

According to an informal Gifts.com poll, the gifts listed below are the ones teachers appreciate the most. Whatever the gesture, it is clear-- teachers cherish the appreciation, and love feeling the love!

- Heartfelt thank you notes
- Thoughtful gestures and creative, personal gifts
- Gift cards



Educator Spotlight- John Carlo S. Tulinao

Each year, the National Science Teacher Association honors K–12 teachers, principals, professors, and other science education professionals for their outstanding work and achievement in science education. One of the awards given in this annual celebration is the Shell Urban Science Educator development awards which aim to highlight teachers who exemplify innovative Science teaching in an urban education setting.

This year, John Carlo S. Tulinao, a first-grade teacher from Phoenix Arizona, was selected as one of the recipients of this prestigious award for his innovative and culturally responsive approach in teaching academic and STEAM subjects. John Carlo was selected to be this year's recipient due to the success of the STEAM music academy that he started at Amberlea Elementary School. In his classroom learning design, he used different cultural artifacts that represent each of his students which enable him to create a classroom environment that celebrates diversity, uniqueness, and cultural empathy while providing quality academic instructions. Due to this unique and out-of-the-box approach, John Carlo was nominated for this award by his Superintendent, School head, and parents of the students in the STEAM Academy and eventually named as one of the 2021 NSTA Science teachers awardee.



Check out the press about this award:

<https://www.nsta.org/press-release/national-science-teaching-association-names-2021-recipients-its-teacher-awards>

<https://news.miami.edu/stories/2021/04/teacher-fosters-an-interest-in-science-with-music.html>



Educator Spotlight

Early Childhood Educator Spotlight

Candy Bromley is a Pediatric Physical Therapist that has worked in Early Intervention since 2008. Candy works with RISE Early Intervention in Southern Maricopa and Pinal Counties coaching families that live in Chandler, Maricopa, Arizona City, Eloy, Casa Grande, and the Gila River Indian Community. Candy's extensive knowledge base and her warm and welcome way with families make her an extraordinary asset to her team members.

Candy shared her thoughts on why she loves working with the EI families year after year, even during the COVID-19 pandemic!

"Our families in Early Intervention are amazing. We get to be a part of a team surrounding each child. We get the opportunity to partner with the family to problem solve, cheer them on, walk through the hard stuff and celebrate every achievement along the way. I am humbled daily by their hard work and perseverance. I learn from them, just as much as I teach. We get the opportunity to empower families, so they can confidently support and advocate for their child. It is so exciting when families share videos and pictures of their many accomplishments between visits. "

Candy really jumped headfirst into utilizing telehealth services and continues to provide invaluable support to her families through alternative means of service delivery that she normally provides in their home environment. Great job Candy!



ESS Educator Spotlight

Estevan Carreon

Estevan Carreon is the 2021 Arizona Council for Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher of the Year along with being one of this year's Arizona Education Foundation's Ambassadors of Excellence. Mr. Carreon began his career in education as an instructional assistant before teaching at Cortez High School in Phoenix. He currently teaches students who have emotional disabilities and behavioral issues at Independence High School in Glendale, Arizona. The ADE's Exceptional Student Services Recruitment and Retention team is thrilled that Mr. Carreon will be speaking to new special education teachers about how he survives and thrives in the profession at Teach Camp this summer.

Educator Spotlight:

This year, as in years past, Superintendent Hoffman recognized educators on the ADE social media pages during Teacher Appreciation Week. The agency received about 200 nominations for educators to be featured! While only 12 could be featured on social media, we are happy to recognize the other educators and those who took the time to submit their names for consideration.

(Names printed as submitted)



Sarai Baker	ACCEL	Holly Hooley	Desert Canyon Elementary School
Shannon Jeffrey	Agua Caliente Elementary School	Kim Sullivan	Desert Canyon Elementary- SUSD SOL
Sholanda Smitj	Agua Fria UHSD- Canyon View	Chad Fulton	Desert Star Academy
James Kriznauski	ALA Gilbert North	Jackie Renfro	Desert Star Academy
Candace Greene	Alhambra	Jody Carroll	Desert Star Academy Middle School
Emily Chapman	Alhambra School District	Jillion Barnes	Diamondback Elementary
Valerie Locke	Amberlea Elementary School in Pendergast District	Joell Gall	Discovery Gardens
Sara Dwojakowski	American Leadership Academy Gilbert South	Yahaira Leafstone	DUSD #27
Mandy Crockett	Arizona Charter School	María Ruiz	Dusd27
Carrie Caviness	ASU Polytechnic Preparatory Academy	Abby Carr	Dysart Unified School District
Jill Steenburg	ASU Prep Digital	Veronica Zuniga	Early Headstart of Santa Cruz County
Jill Reid	ASU Preperatory Academy	Laurie Ellzey	Sun Valley Academy
Heather Murray	Avondale Elementary School District	Jayne Crowley	ESA Tutor
Xochitl Lopez	Avondale Elementary School District #44	Gina Ucci	Field Elementary
Neal Barnett	BASIS Flagstaff	Diane Englehardt	Florence Unified
Jenny Pierpont	BASIS Phoenix Primary	Jonathan Spray	Florence Unified School District No. 1
Linda Fitch	Benchmark Elementary	Judy Chesla	Fort Mojave Elementary school.
Kara Bigelow	Benjamin Franklin East	Rubycell Rodriguez	Gadsden Elementary School district
Heather Freeman	BESD#33	Lizette Ferrusquilla	Gadsden Elementary School District #32
Rachel Cottellese	Blue Ridge Unified School District (Blue Ridge Elementary)	Andrea Pinti	Gilbert Public Schools
Ava Smith	Bullhead City Elementary School	Sheila Scanlan	Gilbert Public Schools
Amanda Carroll	Bullhead city elementary school district	Barbara Arroyo	Gilbert Public Schools
Stephanie Marciniak	Calibre Academy Surprise	Kara Chenevert	Grand Canyon Unified School District
Samantha Fell	Camelback High School in Phoenix	David Nydegger	Great Hearts Academies
Amber Cordova	Casa Grande Elementary School District	Señorita Medina	International School of Tucson
Amanda Serchen	Chandler unified	Maria Henry	Justine Spitalny School
Cassie Itsell	Chandler Unified School District	Missy Conrad	Killip Elementary Flagstaff
Tawngela Reynolds	Chandler Unified School District	The Entire Kyrene del	
Amber Lugo	Chandler Unified School District	Cielo Staff	Kyrene Elementary School District
Kara Taylor	Chandler Unified School District	Gwen Cordiak	Kyrene del Cielo
Megan Gray	Chaparral Elementary	Amy Bowser	Lake Valley Elementary
Elizabeth Sacco	Charlotte Patterson Elementary School	Lauren Hipelius	Legacy Traditional School
Michele Leyendecker	Colorado River Union High School #2	Shelley Eifler	Legacy traditional schools goodyear
Dorothy Rape	Colorado River Union High School District	Jennifer Prieve	LESD- Palm Valley Elem.
Shelby Johnson	Colorado River Union High School District	Jennifer Romijn	Litchfield Elementary
Cheryl Blalock	Cottonwood Oak Creek School District	Samantha Gurley	Littleton Elementary School District #65
Kim DeLara	Coyote Hills Elementary	Jocelyn Flink	Madison School District-Camelview Elementary
Rebecca McCaffrey	CUSD	Janine Tech	Marana Unified School District
Emma Goetz	DCES at SUSD	Maribelle Leyvas	Mariana Unified School District
Rita Ippolito	DCES in Scottsdale Unified School District	Christine Best	Marshall Ranch Elementary- PUSD
AnaLisa Ramos	Deer Valley	Mandy Heal	Mesa
Kimberly Erath	Deer Valley School District - Mirage Elementary	Gina Ucci	Mesa
Christine Rowlan	Deer Valley Unified School District	Sheri Brenner	Mesa Pubic Schools

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Arleigh Crispin	Mesa Public Schools	Margot Lopez	Santacruz Valley School District #35
Audrey Henderson	Mesa Public Schools	Zachary Sabol	Scottsdale
Cheryl Nacsa	Mesa Public Schools	Kimberley Sullivan	Scottsdale Online Learning SUSD
Taryn Tidwell	Mesa Public Schools	Kelleigh Little	Scottsdale School District
Todd Arbogast	Mesa Public Schools	Katherine Honeycutt	Scottsdale School District
Audrey Henderson	Mesa Public Schools	Adrienne Ullman	Scottsdale Unified school district
Christina Bustos	Mesa Public Schools	Jillian Kersten	Scottsdale Unified School District
Jamie English	Mohave Accelerated Learning Center	Lynn Brachtl	Scottsdale unified school district
Staci Darus	Mohave Accelerated Learning Center	Wen Chyi Chiu	Seton Catholic Preparatory
Michelle Lyndecker	Mohave High School	Jenn Crawford	Sharp Alternative School, Mesa
Darcy Gershkowitz	MPS	Ayse Kolo	Sonoran Charter Schools
Coreta Cruz	Mt View Elementary	Larry A Brown	South mountain High School
Alicia Marshal Wronski	Navarrete Elementary - Chandler Unified	Ching-I Chen	SUSD
Gynna Rosas	Nogales Unified School District #1	Jennifer Bethke	SUSD
Lisa Cross	Paradise Valley	Melissa Caramucci	SUSD
Joanna Johnson	Paradise Valley School District	Julie Busch	SUSD
Kris Franklin	Paradise Valley School District	Lourdes Garino	SUSD12
Mary Gilmore	Paradise Valley Unified	Kiera Lombardi	Tempe El 3 (Ward Traditional)
Michelle Landreville	Paradise Valley Unified	Katherine Molnar	Tempe Elementary, Wood School
Brittany Korte	Paradise Valley Unified School District	Julie Cook	Thatcher Unified School District
Diane Siekmann	Paradise Valley USD	Jennifer Labuz	The Leona Group
Samantha Merry	Pendergast	Ashlee Luber	Trinity Lutheran
Stacie Rennie	Pendergast	Chizuru Jurman	Tucson High Magnet School - Tucson Unified School District
Tracy Butler	Peoria Accelerated	Christina Stone	Tucson Unified
Kara Berchin	Peoria Unified	Deborah DeVere	Tucson Unified
Dayna Lewis	Peoria Unified School District #11	Ernesto Canez	Tucson Unified
Erin Swindig	Peoria Unified School District #11	Jenifer Rolle	Tucson Unified
Rosalia Berumen	Phoenix Elementary School District-Kenilworth Middle School	Kellie Curtis	Tucson Unified
Sarah Schuler	Prescott Unified School District #1	Linda Calderone	Tucson Unified
Deirdre Cronin	PVUSD	Minerva Figueroa	Tucson Unified
Rachel Cupryk	Red Mountain High School	Misty Burgueño	Tucson Unified
Melissa Davis	Ridgeline Academy Charter School Phoenix, AZ 85085	Rene Coronado	Tucson Unified
Leilani Subillie	Roadrunner Elementary at Washington Elementary District	Steven Stewart	Tucson Unified
Brittany Marcurio	Roadrunner Washington Elementary	Virginia Schoppenhorst	Tucson Unified
Ms. Hayes	Royal Palm Middle School	Angelica Serrano	Tucson Unified School District
Rachel Andrasek	Sacaton Elementary School District	Brandi Ruiz	Tucson Unified School District
Renee Miranda	Sahuarita Unified School District	Dr. Andrew Lettes	Tucson Unified School District
Sahuarita Digital		Gabriela Chai	Tucson Unified School District
Pathways Academy's		Tia Tsosie-Begay	Tucson Unified School District
Entire K-12 Team	Sahuarita Unified School District #30	Kristine Morris	Union Elementary School District
Ritu Sharma and Lindsay		Emily Zelazny	Union Elementary School District #62
Klein	Salt River Elementary School	Megan Hickam	Union Elementary School District #62
Elizabeth Bond	Santa Cruz valley	Savanna Eaton	Union Elementary School District #62

Educator Spotlight

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Timber Anderson	Union Elementary School District #62
Victoria Williams	Union Elementary School District #62
Erika Haehl	Union Park School
Gloria Bernal	Vail School District
Denise Cabello	Vail School District
Sharon Newman	Vail School District. Micha Mountain High School
Amanda Koenig	Vail School District--Desert Willow Elementary School
Kathleen Frausel	Vail Unified School District
Victoria Bennett	Vector Prep & Arts Academy, Skyline Schools
Elizabeth Jenne	Vista College Prep
Brandie Watson	Washington Elementary School District
Kelly Valdivia	Washington Elementary School District
Laura Blakesley	Washington Elementary School District
Mark Mezger	Washington Elementary School District
Melody Gately	Washington Elementary School District
Brooke Garcia	Whitman Elementary - Mesa Public Schools
Kim Henling	Winslow Unified School District
Kara Robinson	Young Scholars Academy



**Thank you to ALL Arizona teachers for
your dedication.**



Troops to Teachers

Our Troops to Educators Coordinator Lee Fernwault does regular outreach in the military community to ensure we best serve our veterans. Not only does he visit the different Arizona bases, but he also takes information to community events. Now that our program will also serve military spouses, these events are especially important to help spread the word. This month Lee set up a booth at the Annual Arizona National Guard Kickball tournament to bring awareness to suicide prevention. This event included community partners such as Troops to Educators who are working to help those serving and their families.



Educator Preparation Programs

Pre-Service Teacher Appreciation- We are overjoyed to welcome our newest educators to the profession. Thank you to our EPP partners for helping us to recognize just a few of the 2021 graduates.

Congratulations to all of the 2021 graduates! You persevered through the most challenging year and we are grateful to have you join the profession.

Please be sure to join a professional content area association and seek out mentors to help guide you through your career.

Pre-Service Educator Recognition



Kayla Peterson- 2021 Graduate, Grand Canyon University
Check out her story [here](#)



Arizona Christian University Education Graduates- 2021

Pre-Service Educator Recognition

ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College Graduates

“



My fondest memories at MLFTC are the beautiful friendships I made and the close relationships I forged with my education professors. The MLFTC faculty made me feel so loved and so supported!

MONIQUEA MARTINEZ
BAE, EARLY CHILDHOOD & EARLY
CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION
CLASS OF 2021

“



I will remember all of the amazing people and the connections we made along the way. Everyone I have been involved with has been extremely welcoming and helpful. I hope that the bonds we created will last well beyond graduation.

BRIAN ADAMS
MED, CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
(GIFTED EDUCATION)
CLASS OF 2021

“



Don't be afraid to ask. Ask for help, ask for guidance, ask for that day off. And know that you are never alone and there are people out there who want to see you succeed (including yourself)!

XENIA MYERS,
BAE, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
CLASS OF 2021

“



I am proud that I pushed through trials during the past year. I have loved the program at ASU and the wealth of knowledge I've gained from my professors through their intentional feedback and support.

BREE TARBUTTON
MED, CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
(EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION)
CLASS OF 2021

Pre-Service Educator Recognition

Northern Arizona University College of Education 2021 Graduates



Dulce Lopez (Elementary)
Dulce, congratulations on your accomplishments!
Your love for English Language Learners is
exemplary.

Genet Patterson (dual certification in Special Education and
Elementary Education) -
Genet, you were made to be successful and take your
students with you!



Deyanira Rubio (Dual Certification in Elementary and Special Education) -
Deyanira, congratulations! You have been and will continue to be a
blessing to the children you serve.

Yuritzi Orozco -
Because teachers literally change generations...
Congratulations!



Pre-Service Educator Recognition

Northern Arizona University College of Education 2021 Graduates



Sunshyne Rowlette (Master's in Special Education) - You have done it, Sunshyne!!! Thank you for choosing to serve our children with commitment!

Ruben Jaramillo (Elementary) - Ruben, Congratulations!!!! Your honest concern to create a platform to have the voice of your students be heard is appreciated! You make a difference!



Vanessa Galindo (Elementary) - Vanessa, feel proud of your accomplishments. We, your professors and family, certainly are!!!!

Pre-Service Educator Recognition

University of Arizona College of Education 2021 Graduates

Congratulations to Amanda Cheromiah, The University of Arizona College of Education's Class of 2021 Outstanding Graduate Student, on graduating this month with a PhD in Higher Education!



Congratulations to Megan McDevitt, The University of Arizona College of Education's Class of 2021 Outstanding Senior, on graduating this month with a bachelor's degree in deaf studies with emphasis in educational interpreting!

Congratulations to Lauren Fisher on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in rehabilitation studies and services! Fisher is also the Outstanding Senior Award recipient in the program.



Pre-Service Educator Recognition

University of Arizona College of Education 2021 Graduates



Congratulations to Sujei Benavides on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in literacy, learning and leadership! Benavides is also the Outstanding Senior Award recipient in the program.

Congratulations to Vanessa Holmes on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in elementary education! Holmes is also an Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the co-teaching program.



Congratulations to Jessica Roberts on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in elementary education! Roberts is also an Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the program.

Congratulations to Diana Teran on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in elementary education! Teran is also an Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the program.

Congratulations to Jessica Borum on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in elementary education! Borum is also an Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the co-teaching program.

Congratulations to Dylan Balber on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in mild to moderate disabilities! Balber is also the Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the program.

Pre-Service Educator Recognition

University of Arizona College of Education 2021 Graduates

Congratulations to Shawnee Dixon on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education! Dixon is also the Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the program.



Congratulations to Lori Switzer on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education with a bachelor's degree in deaf studies! Switzer is also the Outstanding Senior Award recipient in the program.



Congratulations to Rae Richards on graduating from The University of Arizona College of Education's Teach Arizona program! Richards is also the Outstanding Student Teacher Award recipient in the program.

Pre-Service Educator Recognition



Chris Hofstrand



Arielle Alam



Taylor Gering

Scottsdale Community College “STEP” Rock Stars!

In an unprecedented year, three Scottsdale Community College Traditional Post Bac STEP candidates rose to the top! While student teaching, they prepared and taught engaging lessons, successfully integrated technology, and displayed great flexibility. The three candidates also took on an extra challenge mid-year by accepting full time teaching positions while completing their teacher education course work. Each candidate displayed a true passion for teaching and making a difference in the lives of their students!

Scottsdale Community College is pleased to announce each candidate has obtained a full-time teaching position for the next school year.

Ms. Taylor Gering – Paradise Valley School District – Grayhawk Elementary - Kindergarten

Ms. Arielle Alam – Desert Thunder Avondale Elementary School District – Desert Thunder – 6th grade

Mr. Chris Hofstrand – Paradise Valley School District – Fireside Elementary – 6th grade

Congratulations to our new Arizona Rock Star educators!

Pre-Service Educator Recognition



Klassroom Alternative Teacher Certification Program wants to congratulate one of their newest graduates – Mr. Zack Lehman. In April, Zack completed his clinical placement in 3rd grade at Edison Elementary in the Phoenix Elementary School District. As his Teacher Preparation Coordinator, I mentioned to Zack that he might want to ask the principal to observe him at least once before his clinical placement ended. He did just that. The principal observed Zack, called him outside after the observation and offered him a job right on the spot! Congratulations to Zack who will be teaching 4th grade at Edison Elementary in the Fall!

The University of Phoenix would like to recognize Jacqueline Pool, a participant in Arizona's Alternative Pathway to Certification program while serving as the social studies teacher of record at Hayden High School in Winkleman, AZ.

Since Hayden is a very small school, there just aren't enough slots to hire a full-time person to serve in the traditional jobs that other schools have.

Therefore, Jacqueline was asked to take on many roles, ranging from health care to school safety, all while learning the ropes as a secondary teacher. Fortunately for the staff and students at Hayden, a challenge is just another day in the life of Ms. Pool – teacher extraordinaire!



How can we help? We would love to hear from you.

Email us at teach@azed.gov with suggestions, stand out stories, educator recognition, information or research requests, topics for our next newsletter, etc.