

## 2011 TEACHER OF THE YEAR



See Jennifer's comments on [Best Practices here](#)

**Jennifer Glueck** graduated from Arizona State University in 2002 with a BA in Bilingual Education. She received her Master's in Education-Reading Instruction in 2006 from Grand Canyon University and holds a Teaching Certificate in Elementary Education.

Jennifer has an ESL endorsement as well as a Reading Specialist and Early Childhood Education endorsement. She and her husband, Bill, raised three boys and she is now a grandmother to three beautiful grandchildren, Derrek, Kayla, and Joshua.

Jennifer has been a teacher in the Madison Elementary School District at Madison Camelview for ten years. Her vast experience teaching English Language Learners began in the first grade general education classroom at Madison Camelview. She has a passion for working with ELL students, so for the past four years, Jennifer has been a first grade SEI classroom teacher. Currently, she has an SEI class of 32 first grade students ranging from Basic to Intermediate. She holds the leadership position of First Grade Chairperson on the school's Leadership Team.

Mrs. Glueck is a Madison Elementary School District leader in her knowledge and implementation of the 'High Powered' strategies used to help our ELL students succeed. She has been a Madison teacher trainer for these strategies for two years and a teacher trainer in many areas of technology which have earned her the "Magna MICE Team Award" from the National School Board Association in 2010. She received the "Spotlight on Success Award" from ADE/OELAS in 2010 and the "You Make a Difference Award" from Madison Elementary School District in 2008.

Jennifer loves teaching first grade because it provides the building blocks that students need to be successful in all future educational endeavors; she is very proud of the progress that her students show each year. Last year, she started the year with non-readers. By the end of the year, 90% were reading at or above benchmark with only two students reading below benchmark. On the AZELLA, six of her students tested out of the ELL program as 'Proficient', which is not an easy feat given the rigor of the first grade AZELLA.

She and her students have high expectations and their motto is "I Can Do It." When asked to describe her most rewarding experiences while teaching ELL students, this was her response:

*"I love seeing the twinkle in the eyes of a child when they "get it" for the first time. ELL students provide many opportunities to see that twinkle as they learn new words and understand new concepts on a daily basis. I have had many students come to me quiet, lost, and afraid, but when they leave they are able to carry on an intelligent conversation and have a confidence in themselves that they never had before. Knowing that I helped set them on a path to future success in school and in life is the greatest reward of all."*