



ARIZONA EL TEACHER OF THE YEAR



FINALIST

MARCY TELESKO

7-8 ELD Teacher
Alhambra
Elementary
School District

"Upon entering Ms. Telesko's classroom, one gets a sense of family and community that has been established. It is evident that as a teacher and a person, she embraces the philosophical descriptors of Principle One, asset-based behaviors. The community map on her wall proudly displays where her students are originally from. The world map gives a glimpse of the global community that is present in her classroom. The multi-cultural diversity of her students is continually celebrated in the lessons she teaches. Besides the focus on academics and language development, Ms. Telesko includes topics that support social and emotional learning. She engages students in collaborative conversations that are inclusive of acculturation while honoring and maintaining their native cultural values.

Through Ms. Telesko's teaching and guidance in and out of the classroom, her EL students experience a welcoming and positive journey as middle school students. Although, in the past her students have been mostly on the pre-/emergent and basic levels, they have been successful in developing necessary language skills to grow academically in their classes."

Karen Schmaltz
Director of Supplemental Programs
Alhambra Elementary School District