



# ARIZONA EL TEACHER OF THE YEAR



## LORENA AVELINO

3rd Grade  
ELD Teacher  
Fowler Elementary  
School District

"I have supervised Lorena Avelino for nine years in her role as a third grade teacher at Fowler Elementary School. During this time, she has continually demonstrated her dedication to teaching students who are learning the English Language. Her passion for teaching and learning is evident as soon as you step through her classroom door.

Students in Lorena's classroom are actively engaged in meaningful learning activities that help English Language acquisition. There are structured partner and small group discussions happening all the time. Students use personal dry erase boards during writing and grammar time. Lorena has created an environment that students are comfortable taking risks. No one is made fun of or made to feel inferior due to their language ability.

"Lorena Avelino plans her targeted and integrated hours with her students' abilities in mind. Her targeted instruction on specific skills allows her students to acquire the English Language at an accelerated pace in content areas. She uses assessment data to plan her instruction to best meet the needs of each individual student. Differentiated instruction using the English Language Standards help her students achieve."

Her passion for teaching students English is incredible. She knows the struggles her students face as they learn a new language, as English is not her first language either. Her unique ability to teach language and academics at the same time is evident in her state testing data. Not only do students move language ability levels on the AZELLA, her students also test proficient on the Arizona Academic Standards Assessment."

Robert Altavilla, Principal  
Fowler Elementary School District