



Wyoming Department of Education

Cindy Hill, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor, 2300 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne WY 82002-0050

Phone: (307) 777-7675 | Fax: (307) 777-6234 | Website: edu.wyoming.gov

PRESS Release

Local Teacher of the Year, Desi Pampuch, Receives Accolades

Sweetwater County School District #2 teacher, Desi Pampuch, received the district Teacher of the Year award for 2015, according to Superintendent of Public Instruction Cindy Hill. Pampuch, a teacher for 25 years, served as fifth-sixth grade teacher at Monroe Middle School.

“Teaching is the most important profession,” says Pampuch. “Our country would not be where it is today without teachers. True teachers don’t necessarily choose to become teachers; the profession chooses them. They are drawn to it and can’t get away from it...it’s who we are.”

Speaking about the teaching profession, Pampuch comments, “Teachers need to look beyond different teaching methods or learning styles or current trends and find what they need to use to teach their own individual class. Teachers need to read their students and be able to adjust what they are doing to what works for their students.”

Testing is a current hot topic in educational circles. Pampuch addresses her concerns on this topic: “Standardized testing is taking over what is being taught in our classrooms. Many students come to us needing compassion, empathy and a safe place. Instead, teachers are forced to teach the concepts that are on the test rather than teach how to do the skills necessary for survival in today’s world.

“It is difficult to sit by and watch our money go into a testing system that inaccurately assesses the growth of our students,” she continues. “One can only speculate who is making the money that we are spending. Who made the decision that all students must be tested and must pass in order to say that a teacher is doing his or her job?”

Pampuch will receive a crystal apple award from the Wyoming Department of Education.