



Wyoming Department of Education

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PRESS Release

Local Teacher of the Year, Lorna Poulsen, Receives Accolades

Sheridan County School District #2 teacher, Lorna Poulsen, received district Teacher of the Year award for 2015, according to Superintendent of Public Instruction Cindy Hill. Poulsen, a teacher for 23 years, serves as social studies teacher at Sheridan Junior High School.

A key to teaching is building relationships with students, according to Poulsen. “I spend time getting to know my students well, building relationships and finding ways to connect with each one. I greet them at the door each day,” she says.

Accountability is a current buzz word in educational circles. Poulsen addresses this topic: “We should not hold individual teachers accountable for test scores as the principle component of the teacher assessment process. Rather, we should use a layered approach such as the principal evaluation with actionable feedback.”

Poulsen, who will receive a crystal apple award from the Wyoming Department of Education, says, “Winston Churchill said, ‘We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.’ I feel blessed to work in a field that I believe is more service-oriented than just making a living. Research shows that teachers are the most important school factor influencing a child’s education.”