

When I began teaching 24 years ago, I wanted to change the world! I was going to be a superstar teacher. I was going to be a Principal. I was going to hold a District Position. I was going to be Superintendent. I worked hard at that pursuit until one day I remembered **why** I entered the classroom to begin with...because I wanted to teach. I wanted to be in the classroom. I wanted to be there when the kid that's been struggling finally gets it. I wanted to be there when that eye begins to twinkle because it finally makes sense. I wanted to be there when that sense of pride busts out as I hear "I got it!" I wanted to be in the classroom. After 24 years, I still WANT to be in the classroom.

When I was told that I had been chosen as Teasley's TOTY for the year, I was honestly surprised. To be nominated and then included in the final three was humbling in itself. To be recognized by my peers is a great honor and one that I don't take lightly. Both Pam and Karen are phenomenal at what they do and I encourage you to visit with them. When I look at our wall of *Legacy Makers*, I am humbled to be included with such great educators, but I feel so "out of my league." As I walk the halls and look into rooms, I am amazed at the good things that are happening in our building. When I talk with students during class, I hear about the great things happening in their classes. I feel truly blessed to be able to do what I get to do every day and to be a part of Teasley.

When I came to Teasley twenty years ago, I had no idea that this place would so quickly become "home," but it did. I had no idea that a "work family" could be so loving and caring, but y'all are. Teasley is filled with amazing people that willingly give of themselves every single day to better our community and our kids. I am #ProudToBeARaider

#DontForgetYourWhy

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