ANGELA MOSIER
Mathematics Teacher
Westside High School
Omaha, Nebraska

2013 NEBRASKA TEACHER OF THE YEAR:
ANGELA MOSIER

Angela Mosier, a Westside High School teacher, was recently named the 2013 Nebraska Teacher of the Year. Mosier teaches mathematics to students in grades 9-12 at Westside High School.

Maryanne Ricketts, Westside High School principal, said Mosier “works tirelessly to meet the unique needs of all students in her classroom. She designs and implements rigorous, interesting lessons that create multiple opportunities for students to experience success.”

Mosier has been teaching mathematics at Westside Community Schools since 1999. Mosier received both a Bachelor’s Degree and a Master’s Degree in secondary education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and holds National Board Certification in early adolescence mathematics.

Mosier is a member of numerous professional associations including the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Nebraska Association of Teachers of Mathematics, National Education Association, and the Westside Education Association. She oversees Westside High School’s Mathematics Department and is a member of the district’s Staff Development CADRE, as well as, the high school’s staff development committee. Mosier sponsors Mu Alpha Theta, Mathematics Honor Society, and coaches the high school Quiz Bowl Team.

QUOTES FROM ANGELA:

“Cohorts enhance learning and improve the work we do. I wanted to work in a profession where I could help students find the success I had found in the classroom. I wanted to instill a solid work ethic in students, especially those who just feel like giving up.”

“I am reinvigorated every time I can show students multiple ways of solving a problem and encourage them to stay with learning until they actually get it. I want students to know that I support them as a ‘whole person’ and not just as a mathematician.”

“We all learn through action, so students need to be actively engaged. I teach my students not to be afraid of failure and to know it is okay to get things wrong as long as they keep working to get them right.”

“Teaching is the most important profession in our society. We must prepare the children of our nation to take their places in business, industry, government, and the professional world. The success of our nation starts with what happens to every child in our classrooms.”

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Learning is More Than Just Passing a Test

In an era of assessment, how do we set up a classroom that leads to high student achievement? Students should be actively engaged throughout every lesson in your classroom. Formative assessments are important so you, as the teacher, can modify and adjust your lessons to meet students’ needs. In this workshop, you will learn how to implement active participation strategies to enhance learning in and out of the classroom as well as methods for incorporating formative assessments throughout your lessons.

Mathematics is Not a Spectator Sport

The best way to learn mathematics is by doing! Don’t be the stereotypical instructor who lectures, works math problems on the board and one who wants a “sit and get” type of classroom. As math instructors, we must guide students through our curriculum using movement, music, technology, and hands-on activities. In this workshop, you will actively participate in learning activities that you can easily adapt to your classroom to create an exciting learning environment for today’s students.

T²—Teaching & Technology

Technology is continuously changing the learning environment. As educators, we should be out-of-the-box thinkers who use technology to enhance student learning and achievement. We must maintain an open mind when it comes to integrating technology to enhance learning. During this presentation, participants will learn about effective tools to enhance daily lessons in a variety of curricular areas. Participants will also learn ways to use technology for staff development purposes.

Starting a Career in Education: Tips & Tricks of the Trade

It’s minutes before students walk into your classroom. Are you ready? Teaching is not an eight-hour-a-day job, and you don’t become a master teacher by having just well written lesson plans. This workshop is based on the presenter’s personal experiences during her 14 years of teaching – experiences working with student teachers, new teachers, and experiences as a department chair. We will discuss how you can develop yourself into an education leader – in and out of the classroom – beginning in your early years as a teacher. We will focus on classroom topics, such as classroom environment, lesson planning, differentiation, parent communication, and assessment. We also will identify strategies you can use to continue your development as a master teacher through professional development.