



Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to every teacher, in every school, who is continuing to educate students during these challenging times and beyond.



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# Hillary Jeffery

Sommer Elementary

#### 1. Why did you become a teacher

I became a teacher because I enjoy being with kids and want to be a positive in their lives.

#### 2. What is the best thing about your job?

Seeing students be successful and master the skills that are being taught. Building relationships with students that need that extra love and support.

#### 3. What is your favorite subject to teach?

Reading

#### 4. Tell a story behind a favorite object in your classroom.

When I graduated my Aunt made a cross-stitch of an apple and teacher related items. This has been in my classroom for 19 years. Every time I look at it, I am reminded of my family and the importance of family. Family is everything.

#### **Biographical information**

Name: Hillary Jeffery City of residence: Crawfordsville

School/grade: Lester B. Sommer, 4th grade

Total years of experience: 19 Family: Married to Travis; two sons, Neal, 14, Nolan, 9



Quote from principal Suzi Gephart: "Mrs. Jeffery is a teacher leader that cares deeply for her students and is willing to do whatever it takes to motivate them and help them to know that she cares for them. Mrs. Jeffery is part of a wonderful team of people we call our Sommer school community!"





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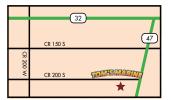


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## Jill Deel

Hose Elementary

#### 1. Why did you become a teacher?

I have always loved kids and knew that I wanted to make a difference.

#### 2. What is the best thing about your job?

Seeing growth in students... academics, social/emotional, behaviors

#### 3. What is your favorite subject to teach?

LOVE special education. It is where my passion is.

#### **Biographical information:**

Name: Jill Deel Town of residence: Veedersburg School/grade: Hose Elementary, special education K-1

Total years of experience: 15 Family: Husband, Lucas; 4

children



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# December 2020

# Jessica Barnhart

## Southmont High School

1. Why did you become a teacher?

Honestly, I have always wanted to be a teacher since I was little girl and I loved school growing up! I fell in love with the content area of family and consumer sciences in high school in large part due to the three awesome family and consumer sciences teachers that I had the pleasure of learning from. Their influence, alone, eventually led me to pursue that area of education. I loved how all of the FACS/home economic classes translated into the real world and I wanted to be able to influence students in the most life applicable ways. I believe that I get to do that through the classes I teach.

#### 2. What is the best thing about your job?

The best thing about my job is the light bulb moment and the real

life application that I get to see. It's very rewarding to actually be able to teach a student new life tasks such as filling out a job application, creating a resume, creating a cover letter, how to thread a sewing machine, and how to prepare for parenthood. The growth I see

in each and every student in my classes is truly the most rewarding part.

#### 3. What is your favorite thing about the subject you teach?

There are many subject areas within the field of family consumer sciences. The areas that I teach specifically are: Preparing for College & Careers, Introduction to Fashion & Textiles, Child Development, Advanced Child Development, and Interpersonal Relationships. I especially love to teach Child Development and Advanced Child Development. There are many considerations to make when preparing to become a parent as well as during the parenting process. I am passionate about being a mom, teacher, and influencing people in positive ways. I feel that is really demonstrated best in

this particular area of Family and Consumer Sciences, which in turn leads to greater success for my students!

## 4. Tell a story behind a favorite object in your classroom.

A favorite object in my classroom currently for my students is the classroom calendar. Every student looks forward to racing to my room to change the date on my calendar because they know that I will forget!

One of my favorite

objects in my classroom is currently a
"germ" that one of
my students made
for me in art class. This particular student had to create an art
piece based on a controversial
topic. I gave her the suggestion of
"COVID-19." She went ahead and
rolled with the topic. This lead her
to create a "germ" in which she
gifted it to me after it was graded.



#### **Biographical information:**

Name: Jessica Barnhart
City of residence: Crawfordsville
School/grade: Southmont High

School, grades 9-12

Total years of experience: 4
Family: Husband, Kyle; 2 children, Gracie, 5, and Carson, 2

Quote from Jesse Burgess: "Mrs. Barnhart is a caring and compassionate teacher who has a passion for family and consumer science. Her students trust she cares about them and has their best interests in mind. Her classes are engaging and there isn't anything she wouldn't do to help her students be successful in the classroom."



## Jene Anne Pendleton Hose Elementary

#### 1. Why did you become a teacher?

I had some favorite teachers that inspired me. They were the kind of teachers that were encouraging and influential. I wanted to impact young lives the same way I remember them doing for me.

#### 2. What is the best thing about your job?

Hanging out with 5-and-6-year-olds is quite entertaining! Lots of funny things are said by students; and teachers! I love to watch them grow and progress. I also love being surrounded by other teachers that are shaping our future!

#### 3. What is your favorite subject to teach?

I enjoy teaching the foundational reading skills. It is so rewarding to watch them begin to read in kindergarten!

#### 4. Tell a story behind a favorite object in your classroom.

I have a collection of read aloud books that I share with my students each year. It consists of my favorite stories that I have collected throughout my life. It has some books from my own childhood that I love to read to my students.

#### **Biographical information**

Name: Jene Anne Pendleton City of residence: Crawfordsville School/grade: Hose Elementary, kindergarten

Total years of experience: 25 Family: Husband, Mike; 2 children, Lilv and Jack



# Congratulations on winning Teacher of the Month!





## Marabeth Gonczarow

New Market Elementary

#### 1. Why did you become a teacher?

My third-grade teacher, Miss Betty Weatherman, inspired me to become a teacher.

#### 2. What is the best thing about your job?

I want to make a difference in someone's life and be a positive influence on others.

#### 3. What is your favorite subject to teach?

I enjoy teaching reading.

#### **Biographical information:**

Name: Marabeth Gonczarow City of residence: Crawfordsille

School/grade: New Market Elementary, 1st grade

Total years of experience: 28
Family: My husband Tony is
a science teacher at Southmont
High School. Our son John, just
graduated from Indiana State
University in the School of Nursing, and our son Andrew is a senior at Wabash College. Rounding
out our household is our year-old
Black Labrador Retriever Pearl,
and our black cat Smokey.



Quote from principal Brittany Cooper: "Marabeth is an exceptional teacher who understands the power of connection and works to build positive relationships with her students and families. She works to provide hands-on engaging learning experiences that instill a love of learning in all her students."



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## Mitchell Homan

Southmont High School



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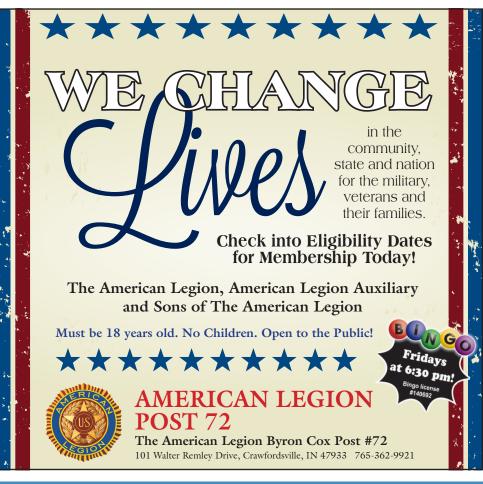




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## Stephanie Timmons Hose Elementary

#### 1. Why did you become a teacher?

I had the best teachers in elementary school and I saw the impact they had on my life and the lives of other students. When I went to college, I searched for a major or career that would allow me to impact others in a similar way. I quickly realized becoming a teacher provided me the best opportunity to make that impact.

#### 2. What is the best thing about your job?

My favorite job is being a mom to my sons. Being a teacher allows me to be "mom" to 25 kids every year and establish relationships that last far beyond our days in the class-

#### 3. What is your favorite subject to

Reading. As a kindergarten/1st grade teacher, it's amazing and rewarding to watch students grow from sounding out letters to reading a book on their own. My favorite part of the day is when I see my students joining the adventures of Jack and Annie when we read aloud books from "The Magic Tree House."

#### 4. Tell a story behind a favorite object in your classroom.

The Dramatic Play Area. It encourages imaginative play. One week it serves as our kitchen and the next, it becomes the veterinarian's office.

#### **Biographical information:**

Name: Stephanie Timmons City of residence: Crawfordsville School/grade: Hose Elementary/K-1 looping

Total years of experience: 14 Family: Husband, Chip; sons, Landon and Drake; dog, Bo



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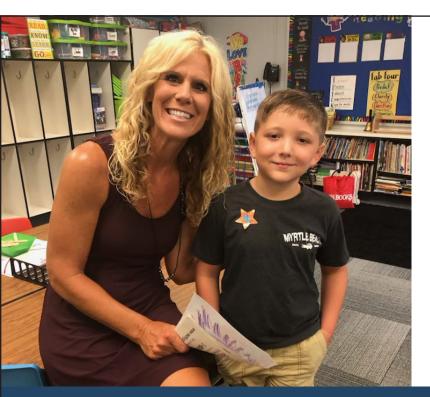
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## CONGRATULATIONS

on another fantastic year Mrs. McGaughey!

It was a trying year, but you made it. Thank you for being an amazing teacher, wife, mother and grandmother. You do so much for all those around you.

Love, Dave, Nate, Katie, Ryan, Aimee, Brooke, Ben, Grady, Parker, Blaine, Cole, Annabelle, Nolan, Emmaline, and Baby Norton



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# Molly Warren

Hose Elementary

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