



Connie Frederking – Wellington, KS

Connie Frederking believes that the more she learns the more equipped she will be to educate students. She wants to encourage them to be the best they can be. She always wants to focus on what is “right” about each child and in this way allows each child to start the day feeling positive about themselves.

She began her path to teaching by attending Coffeyville Community Jr. College where she earned an Associate of Arts Degree in 1974. From there she went to Wichita State University. At WSU she achieved a Bachelor of Arts in 1976 and a Master of Arts in Speech/Language Pathology in 1977. Then in 1991 she retained a Certification in Teaching students with severe and multiple disabilities from the University of Kansas.

Her 43year career in teaching began in the Elk County Special Education Cooperative providing K-12 speech/language services for the towns of Howard, Moline, Sedan and Longton, KS. She spent 10 years there before moving to the Wellington, KS district where she spent from 1987 to 1991 providing Speech/Language Pathologist services. In 1991 she began serving as a special education teacher for students with severe and multiple disabilities, and has continued in this position to 2020.

Connie has received the Walmart Teacher of the Year award in 2001, was nominatd for the Kansas Master Teacher of the Year in 2002, nominated for the Wellington Teacher of the year two different years, and won the Golden Apple Award in 2016. While teaching she has also served as President of the Local NEA in Howard,KS from 1980-1987. She has also served on an MTSS(multi-tier system of supports) from 2015-1017. She has been an educational consultant to teachers and students in the 619 cooperative and the Wellington School District. She has also served on Student Intervention teams, served as the Lead Teacher at Lincoln Elementary, supervised lunchroom daily, served as the MANDT trainer, and mentored teachers.

Community involvement was also a part of her career. She was Director of 4 school plays at West Elk High School from 1983-1985. She was a Girl Scout Leader from 1980-1985. She served on the Board of Directors for Table of Hope Church. Another of her activities includes serving on planning committees for church celebrations as well as working at the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry 1day each week after school.

Kris Hagans, Ms. Frederking’s principal at Lincoln Elementary, writes “The detertmination for student success exhibited by Connie is unmatched.” She further comments that “I am sure if you looked up the definition of compassion in the dictionary, you would find Connie’s picture.” Also, Sharon Hoffman, a colleague, says “ Connie provides positive reinforcement to students that need it, countless resources to teachers. She assists every regular education teacher in classroom modicifications to help each child soar to his or her absolute best.”

The love and dedication Connie displays for her students and those in her community make her a wonderful candidate for the KTHOF Class of 2020.