



Sherry Pfeifer – Maize, KS

“As an educator, I want to share with students the joy of being lifelong learners and information seekers. The young people of today are the change makers of tomorrow, so I consider my impact on them one of the most valuable opportunities to make the world more hopeful and compassionate for generations to come.” These are the words written by Sherry Pfeifer about her goals and teaching philosophy.

Her path to becoming an educator began at Newman University in May of 1988 where she earned a BA in Communication and Minor in Speech/Concentration in Journalism. In May of 1990 she achieved a BS in Secondary Education with certifications in English, journalism, and speech from Newman University. Then in May of 2005 she earned a MS in Literature and English Language from Wichita State University.

Teaching experience began in August 1990 to the present, working for USD #266 Maize High School. Her assignments have included English 9 English 9 Basic, English 9 Honors, English 10, English 10 Inclusive, English 10 Honors, Journalism 9-12, Newspaper/Publication Advisor 10-12, Literary Arts Magazine/publication Advisor 10-12, Verbal Communications 11-12, Fundamentals of Oral Communications – dual College Credit Course 11-12, and Forensic and Debate/Assistant Coach.

She has received numerous recognitions. She received the Certified Journalism Educator recognition – JEA (Journalism Educators Association). In April of 2018 she was Awarded Excellence in Teaching by USD #266. As Publications Adviser for *The Red Feather* Literary Arts Magazine, she has received the All-American Award four times, the Best of Show Award three times, The Gold Medalist Certificate award two times, the Silver Medalist Certificate, once and the Bronze Medalist Certificate, once.

As well as her teaching, she spends time in her community. She is a volunteer in several of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church programs. From Religion Instructor, to Ladies Club group, to Assistant Bible Study Coordinator, Lector, and Assistant/Lead Coordinator for Over 55 Luncheon Group. She also is a parent team manager for Maize Soccer teams, a Mentor Teacher, and a Maslow’s Pantry Faculty Sponsor and Formal Wear Exchange volunteer.

Elisabeth Graber writes that “Each year Sherry would rewrite and rework her lessons to keep up with the changing interests and abilities of the students in her classroom, she was always looking for ways to reach those students who were the toughest to reach.” For this caring dedication and giving, we recognize your efforts and welcome you to the Kansas Teachers’ Hall of Fame class of 2022.

