



For Immediate Release
Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame
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Troutfetter inducted into Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame

George Troutfetter has spent 45 years in many different capacities within the realm of education – from a high school teacher, counselor, assistant principal, and even spending one semester as an elementary English Language Learners teacher. Now, Troutfetter is amongst the Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame class of 2018.

“These experiences have convinced me that while understanding the science, the technique of teaching is critical for effective instruction,” he said. “Teaching is, first and foremost, a special kind of human interaction, a bond that must be established between a teacher and student.”

Troutfetter began his career in 1970 at Salina Central High School. He became a counselor in 1983 and an assistant principal in 1986.

“Students must know they are important to the teacher; that they matter,” he said. “They must also be helped to feel they have meaning, purpose, and significance in life and that education can help them achieve their potential.”

Troutfetter served as a Kansas State Department of Education State Trainer for Kansas School Team trainings and worked with teams of educators and community members to develop community and school substance abuse programs.

“The teacher/administrator must always have hope that, no matter how difficult a student's behavior may be one day, the next day may be different,” he said. “I have often said school may be the only stable thing in many of our students' lives and we owe it to ensure this is a positive and productive stability.”

Troutfetter served as an adjunct instructor at Kansas Wesleyan University and the President and Chief Negotiator for the National Education Association, Salina Chapter. He retired in 2013.

“George is an educator whether he is in school administration, on community boards, or substituting in various classrooms after his retirement,” Michele Palmgren, an instructor at Salina South, said. “His life has been devoted to his community and the children who live in it.”

Troutfetter graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master of Science in School Counseling. He earned his District School Administrator Certification and his Education Doctorate in Educational Administration, both from K-State.

“George is an outstanding and active educator in our community with a solid commitment to ‘Strengthening Our Community,’” Amanda Michaelis and Brenda Gutierrez with United Way said.

Troutfetter served on numerous committees that received United Way funding, as well as the Truancy Review Board, Salina Initiative for Restorative Justice, and Junior Leadership Salina.

“What stands out in my mind most about Dr. Troutfetter is his commitment to building positive relationships with students and staff while serving in many different roles,” Salina South Principal Curtis Stevens said. “He creates hope, builds relationships, and emphasizes effort to help those who work around him exhibit honor and find success.”

Troutfetter is being inducted into the Kansas Teachers’ Hall of Fame June 2 in Dodge City.