



It is rare to find someone who can effectively engage students in learning, be a respected voice among his colleagues, and demonstrate problem solving skills that benefit the administration of a school. TEACHER ABC is rare.

I had the pleasure of observing him teach a lesson in a geometry class, which to this day remains one of the finest examples of reaching students. I dropped in on his class before the bell rang and was sitting with students waiting for Mr. ABC to walk in, go to the podium, and begin the day's lesson. Instead, he entered from the office adjacent to his classroom, dressed in black, and carefully stepped from desktop to desktop as he made his way to the front of the room, with the theme of "Mission Impossible" playing. This was a day to review before a summative assessment, and he presented the class with a series of "clues" to help them break into a secure vault. Each clue required drawing on their knowledge of points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, etc. to make their way through the lasers protecting the vault. Teams of three students collaborated to solve the "clues" and succeed in their mission. There was competition, engagement, and excellent review. I overheard one student in a group near me say, "I don't like math, but Mr. ABC makes me want to learn!"

TEACHER's contribution to the administration of the school is multifaceted. He has been elected by the math department to represent it on the Leadership Team. As such, he always comes to meetings prepared, often with data to advance a discussion. He is respected. Without dominating, he influences decisions. He has just been elected to serve as the school's union president, which is a strong statement to the faculty's trust. Time and time again, as instruction was modified during the pandemic, TEACHER's analysis and perspective were foundational. Teachers met regularly to share what they were experiencing in the virtual teaching environment. TEACHER participated in almost every optional session so that he could improve his instruction, but always gave valued insights. In 2019, he offered a solution to a need that had become apparent, but elusive; how do we manage the growing needs for test coordination, including accommodations for increasing numbers of 504 students. He wrote, and the administration adopted a job description for a Testing Coordinator. It was not a position that he sought for himself, but the creation of this position has resulted in consistent, centralized, and effective management for Advanced Placement, ACT, state standardized testing, and providing for the needs of students with disabilities. Why hadn't this solution been thought of already? TEACHER had not been in the conversation.

He engages and inspires students, colleagues, and the school community in a way that is true to his nature and is not self-seeking. TEACHER does the work he does not because he is seeking accolades, but because he knows that it is the right thing for students and our school. If he were to be chosen as a member of the state's Exemplary Educator Recognition Program, he would be surprised but everyone in our school community would applaud this obvious choice. We would be right behind you to continue the celebration of a uniquely talented teacher and school leader. As the Assistant Principal, I appreciate the entire faculty and their work with students and in the school community, but TEACHER ABC is as close to irreplaceable as any employee in our community. With that, I'd like to recommend TEACHER for the Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program.

Sincerely

Administrator ABC
Assistant Principal, Lagniappe High School