



## **MY PINCONNING SCHOOL PRIDE**

Results from the My Pinconning School Pride essay contest on “My Favorite Teacher” were very heartwarming. It is a wonderful reminder to all of us, how important a teacher is, and how they impact the lives of their students. In the coming weeks, I will be highlighting each winning essay in the Pinconning Journal. Thank you to Northwoods, Pinny Food Center, Independent Bank, McDonalds, and Pinconning Cheese Co. and Deli, for again supporting the essay contest and our students. Here is the winner from the PreK-2 grade category.

My favorite teacher is Mrs. Bowman, my second grade teacher at Central Elementary School. She makes learning so much fun especially when we make craft projects. She is a very nice and thoughtful teacher by caring for her students and wanting us to try and do the best we can in school. She works really hard to teach us Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies, and Science everyday. Mrs. Bowman makes me feel special because of all the hugs and smiles she gives me and the stories she tells about her dog Scout. These are just some things I feel that makes Mrs. Bowman my favorite teacher. I think she is the greatest teacher in the world.

Tegan Ferguson  
Central Elementary

There is one prevailing message throughout all of these essays as you will find out in the coming weeks. That message is, that the teacher made the student feel special. Do you remember your favorite teacher?

Darren S. Kroczaleski, Superintendent of Schools



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Picking up from last week's essay, this student again shows how much of an impact one person can make. We all can be proud of our students and staff in Pinconning Area Schools, because that's what makes the difference.

My favorite teacher is Mr. Chris Rabish, a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Mt. Forest Elementary School. Mr. Rabish has been a very caring teacher as well as a learning instructor. He takes the time to help me when I don't understand something until I demonstrate understanding. I have bad days when I don't want to go to school and Mr. Rabish helps me be ok once I get there I always feel better. He makes jokes and he helps with my homework. One day I made a bad decision at school. I hurt Mr. Rabish's feelings with my bad decision, Mr. Rabish sat down to talk to me and explain the wrong and I now feel bad for what I did to Mr. Rabish, my favorite teacher. I will never do that again. I have done the best this year with AR Reading and I like reading now, Mr. Rabish made it fun for me now I enjoy reading where I did not like to read at all in the past. I thank Mr. Rabish for everything and want him to know, he is my favorite teacher.

Matthew Santos

Mt. Forest Elementary

Thank you, Matthew, for your insight. Thank you, Mr. Rabish, for putting students first and taking time for each child.

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Wow! There are a lot of things that Mara has to say about her teacher, and all the things that they do in her classroom.

My teacher, Mrs. Denise Rivard, is the absolute best! She is energetic, caring, generous, fun and very, very intelligent. In our classroom, we have a small system of government that includes congress and a class President. That allows us to vote and help with making suggestions on how to run our classroom. She allows us to have themed days such as Music Monday, Talking Tuesday, Wacky Wednesday, Thinking/Trivia Thursday and Funny Friday. Mrs. Rivard takes top AR and AM students out to lunch and that is very fun! She makes learning so fun! We are allowed to play on the computers or play board games at recess. We have a suggestion box for students to write ideas or comments to help our classroom run smoothly. My teacher, Mrs. Rivard, is the best Pinconning school teacher ever because she makes school fun and she is my friend!

Mara VanWormer  
Central Elementary

Our students deserve the best education, and keeping learning fun is an effort worth making.

Darren S. Kroczaleski, Superintendent of Schools



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Our children deserve the best education and learning environment that we can provide. We are all role models whether we think we are or not. Our actions and words are watched and imitated. We need to show our children that they are deserving. That they are worth an effort and that people care. Giving children the support they need to be valuable members of our community is not just a teacher's job, it is everyone's job. Dylan's essay is a reminder of just that.

Gary Yaros is a really cool guy. Gary teaches the Boy Scouts of America in the Pinconning Area. Gary once told me that a scout of any level is worthy, loyal, brave, clean, and trustworthy. So, I practice using those skills at home and at school. My friends find me to be a good friend when I help them with their homework. I am very truthful with my parents, as well. A scout always needs to be helpful to their community around them. I have helped the community by cleaning the park and Camp Fish Tales as a boy scout. The best thing that he taught me was how to fix a computer and how to put it back together, so that it would still work. I thought it was cool. Gary is my favorite teacher I have ever had because of all the stuff Gary has done with me.

Dylan Procnier  
Linwood Elementary

It takes a whole community to raise a child. It is going to take all of us working together to get the job done as we prepare students to succeed and thrive as responsible citizens.

Darren S. Kroczaleski, Superintendent of Schools



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Mr. Stoneback was the teacher who received the most essays for My Favorite Pinconning School Teacher. Pinconning is very lucky to have some of these caring teachers who brings relevant teaching to each student. “It’s more than just a paycheck”, as Tina states in her essay.

He’s that crazy teacher with enough energy to supply the whole town of Pinconning. Not one person has anything mean to say about him and he has a way of teaching that no teacher has done before.

When he teaches, he interacts with students to help them relate to the lesson. He doesn’t allow anything to go misunderstood. His motto is, “If you fail as a student, then I have failed as a teacher. Failure is not an option for me.” To walk into a classroom knowing that the teacher refuses to let a student fail and will do everything in his power to prevent it from happening gives one a sense of confidence. He isn’t teaching just for the paycheck; you can tell he really loves his job.

“He” is Mr. Stoneback, and he is my favorite teacher, although Pinconning School Districts makes it hard to choose just one.

Tina Wojda  
High School

Each of us knows that failure is not an option for us and it shouldn’t be an option for our students. We need to convey this to our students and give students our support and a sense of power that they can accomplish wonderful things. Our students deserve this. We can all learn this lesson from Mr. Stoneback.

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### **MY PINCONNING SCHOOL PRIDE**

Mrs. Miller is pictured here with Deidra, Mrs. Campbell wasn't able to be present as she is taking care of her newborn baby girl.

This is the final winning essay, but there were many more each with the same message of how vital is to give every child a chance to succeed by providing a quality education and quality instruction. An American poet once wrote, "If the world seems cold to you, kindle fires to warm it." Touching students lives is kind of like that.

Everyone has a favorite teacher. Whether it be the gym teacher, the math teacher, or even the English teacher. They are the teachers who brighten your day with help or something they said to you. It may be something as small as you look happy today or as big as helping your study for that net test next week. Even though the school is in much need of repair, it's the teacher who make going to school so enjoyable.

I would have to say my favorite teachers would be Mrs. Pomaville and Mrs. Miller. For one, I don't understand English that much, but I love going to class. Mrs. Pomaville makes it fun and interesting, and I love going to school knowing something fun is going to happen that day.

And secondly, Mrs. Miller will brighten your day with a smile or a hug. I've known her since I was in grade school. I learned a lot from her, and she is a good person to talk to whenever you were feeling down. She is one of a kind teacher, as well as Mrs. Pomaville.

Those are just two teachers who have touched my heart. And to this day I do not think I will ever forget when they did for me, and the loving personalities they have. If you have a favorite teacher, make sure they know they have touched your heart.

Deidra Ayotte  
High School

Maybe we should all take to heart Deidra's message, and let those people know who have touched your heart. It just might make their day and warm up the world a bit.

Darren S. Kroczaleski, Superintendent of Schools