



PRESENTS THE TEACHER OF THE MONTH



Shauna Pierce Principal calls teacher “gifted and caring” – a recipe for teaching success

Shauna
Pierce,
second-

blogging or creating Power Point presentations. They blow me away with what they can do,” she says.

grade teacher at Beaver Technology Center, says she always knew she would be a teacher. “As a kid, I played school with my stuffed animals. I would line them all up in a row. And I’ve worked at a teacher supply store since I was 16. I guess I just had it in my blood.” Summers were spent teaching vacation Bible school and her church’s Rockin’ Summer program, a collaborative effort with the Garland ISD. All these experiences laid the groundwork for her future as a teacher.

Mrs. Pierce’s life experiences find their way into the classroom as well. For the past three years, she has spent her summers working at orphanages in Uganda, Africa. “I bring that experience into the classroom. I encourage my students to be grateful for what they have.” By sharing photos of the Ugandan schools and the orphanage, she brings that lesson to life. “Students wrote letters to the kids in Uganda and even donated school supplies to them,” she says.

Mrs. Pierce credits her own elementary-school teachers for inspiring her. “I lived across the street from my first-grade teacher, and my fourth-grade teacher moved up with us to fifth – and I loved her carefree spirit. She made learning fun.”

“Her passion for teaching is apparent to all who know Shauna,” says Mida Milligan, Beaver Tech principal. “Shauna is a gifted and caring educator, role model and teacher-leader who has significantly contributed to the success of her students, our community, of other teachers, and of this campus,” she says.

Mrs. Pierce’s students would no doubt echo that sentiment about their own teacher. She brings science and math to life using the many resources her school provides – as well as drawing from her store of supplies collected from her years working at the teacher supply store.

“When I interview teacher applicants, I am always searching for those who have several qualities: a high level of care and concern for students, knowledge and passion for the subject area, team player/leadership ability, and a willingness to learn and grow. Shauna embodies all of these qualities at an exemplary level, has mastered both the art and science of teaching, and is the type of person that represents the best of what teachers can be. I am most fortunate to have this outstanding educator at Beaver Technology Center.”

After graduating from University of North Texas with her teaching certification eight years ago, she landed a position at Beaver and has been there ever since. Mrs. Pierce says, “I love this school. It’s amazing. The faculty, kids, and parental support” all contribute to a great learning environment.

Mrs. Pierce’s professionalism has also caught the attention of her peers. She was named Walmart Teacher of the Year in her third year of teaching, and last year was named Campus Teacher of the Year. “That was chosen by the faculty, and it’s encouraging to know that they think I’m doing something right,” Mrs. Pierce says.

She also feels fortunate to teach at Beaver because the school’s structure makes delving deeply into her subject matter, second-grade math and science, easier for her to do. “I only have to plan for two subjects, so I can add on to the curriculum a lot,” she says.

No doubt she’s doing much more than “something right” as she inspires those around her. Congratulations to Shauna Pierce, Garland ISD Teacher of the Month.

Students spend time in her classroom using manipulatives, tactile representations of concepts such as fractions or solids. They also get plenty of computer time. “They spend time



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