

## **Support Statement for Chris Jacobs Elementary Science Teacher of the Year Nominee**

Chris Jacobs' fifteen years' experience as an educator has made her an inventive teacher that reaches each student with excitement and dedication. She has the unique quality of having both a heart for her students and for the subjects she teaches, in particular - science. She is an outstanding teacher leader.

Mrs. Jacobs believes science education is under-utilized. She believes we should be integrating science curriculum into other subject areas throughout the elementary school years, since science time is often unavailable due to reading and math's heavy time requirements. Mrs. Jacobs integrates science into math due to its overlapping connections. She also shows her students the connection to all areas of the curriculum and to their lives. Her daily lessons involve teaching through hands-on experiments, examples and science journals. She incorporates science clips from various sources. Her students enjoy the different ways she teaches the science curriculum.

Mrs. Jacobs is instrumental in planning science curriculum on her grade level. She is dedicated to attending workshops to bring back vital knowledge and materials to share with her colleagues. By doing this, Mrs. Jacobs impacts learning beyond the walls of the classroom. She has attended Roper Mountain Science Center's Summer Institute on weather. She attended COSEE Southeast's workshop and received a \$300 grant from Sea Grant Consortium. Mrs. Jacobs loves teaching science!!