2017 District-wide Elementary Rookie Teacher of the Year

Connie Summerford
Randolph Elementary

As a licensed physical therapist, Ms. Summerford had practiced within the school system. But her exposure to so many excellent teachers sparked a desire to personally teach those young minds.

After substitute teaching, Ms. Summerford transitioned to a math teacher where she now spends her time helping fifth grade students realize they can be successful mathematicians.

She believes it’s important to make students an active part of the learning process. In an environment of mutual respect, classroom instruction consists of small groups, collaboration and problem solving with a team mentality and choice. Various learning options are provided to engage students creating expanded interests. Skills are developed through practice, partner activities, games and technology where student-centered learning fosters a true desire for education.

Her impact extends beyond her own students. Ms. Summerford can be seen assisting with Read/Deed/Run, leads a group for weekly school-wide enrichment, serves on the vertical math team and is the fifth grade Core Essential coordinator.