Faced with a number of challenges, these folks did extraordinary things …

He was awarded **Teacher of the Year** and his peers gave him a standing ovation …



Miguel Rodriguez
Science Teacher


She wrote a grant for a school garden, established an Ecology Club, and has taken her students on over 500 field trips…



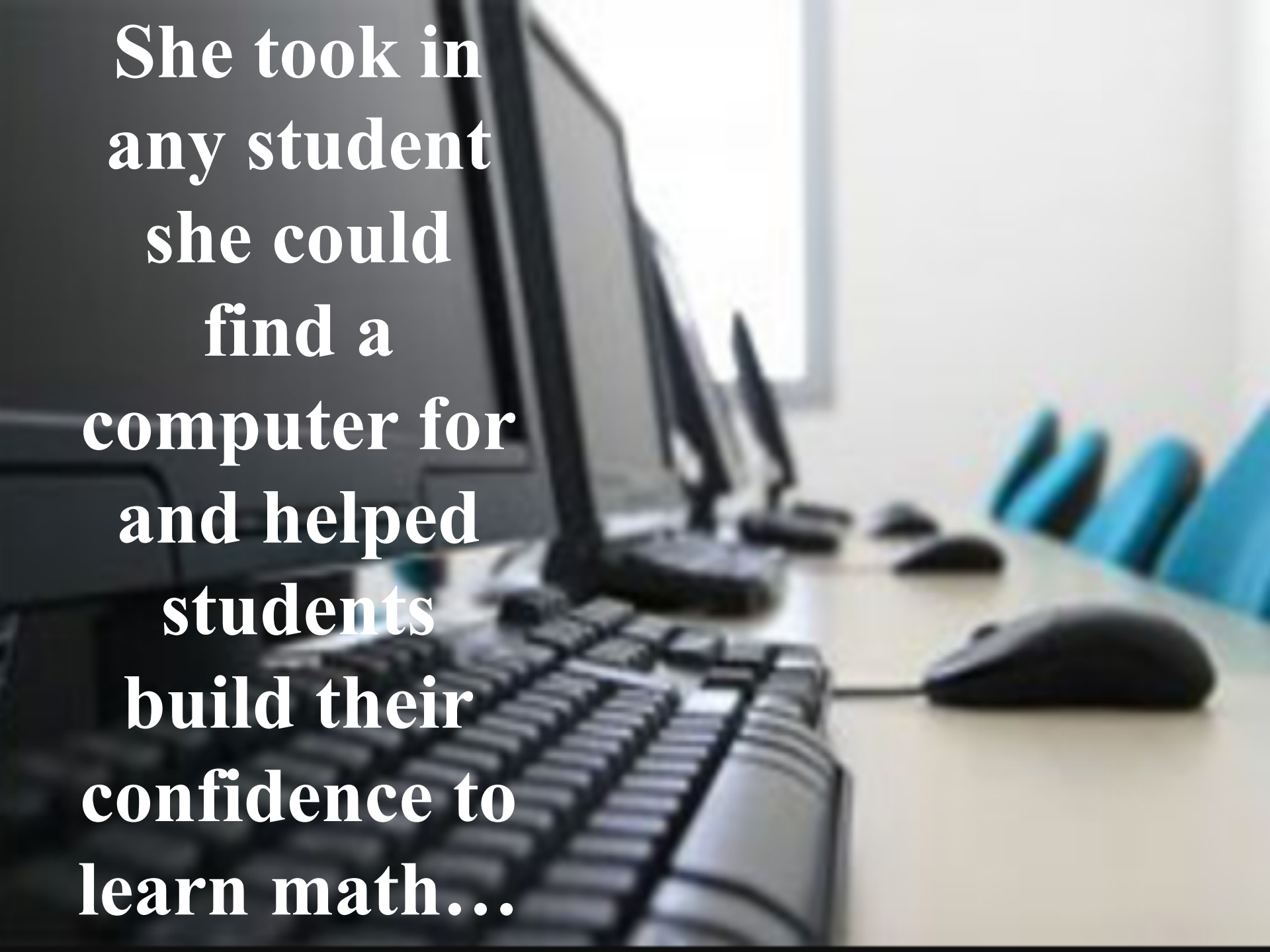
Maria Elizondo

Math & Science Teacher

They collaborated, taped, recorded, decorated in Pirate theme and put in countless hours building online portfolios and projects with their students…

School for Advanced Studies




She took in any student she could find a computer for and helped students build their confidence to learn math…

Theresa Tabizon

Math Intervention Teacher

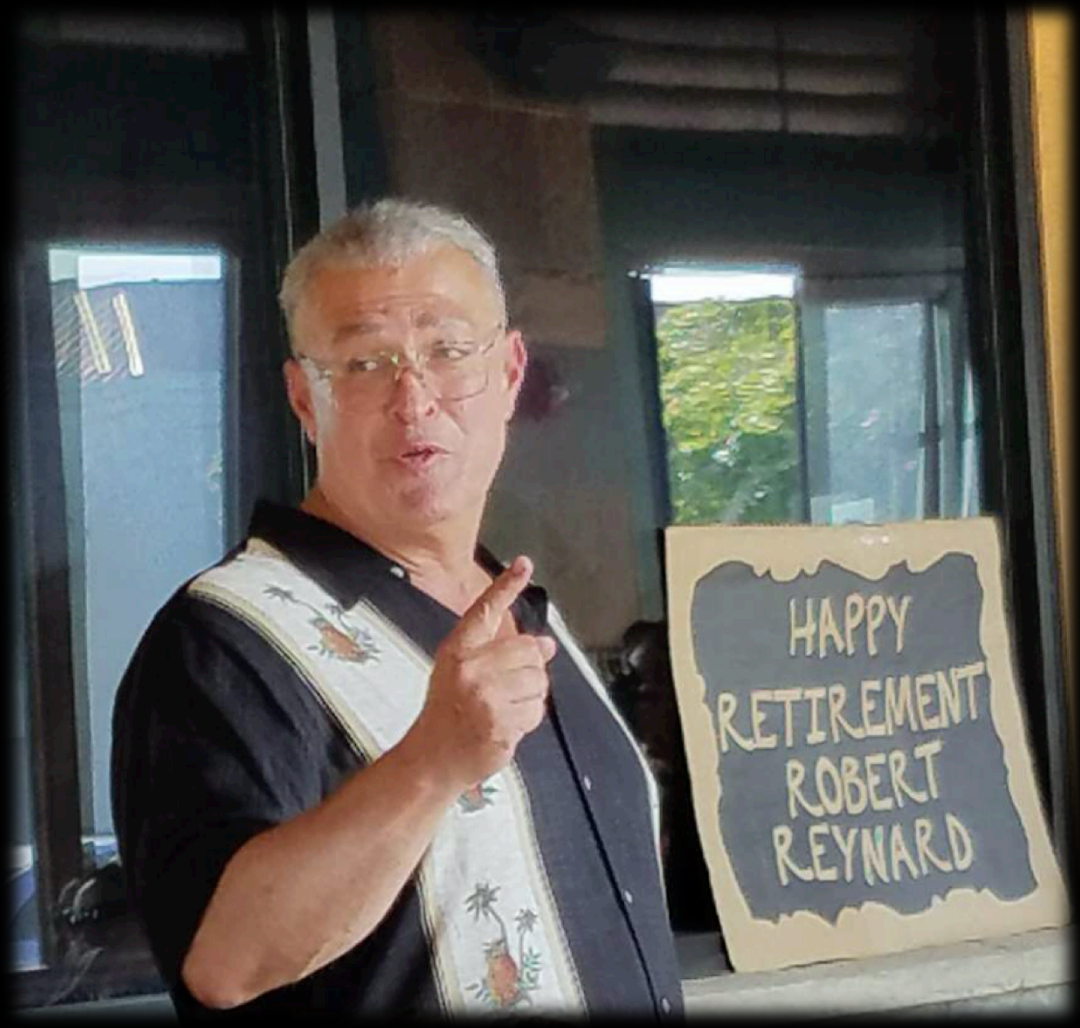


After teaching for 32 years, we wish him joy in his retirement. He is known by his students to be the "best teacher at Nimitz."



Robert Reynard

History Teacher



Her passion for her community and her passion for reclassifying students are evident in her dedication to Nimitz Middle School…



Melissa Meza
EL Coordinator



She established and grew an exemplary School for Advanced Studies and has been a teacher to several Nimitz superstar teachers…



Theresa Pearson

Math & Science Teacher



He led his PLC, always shows honor and respect to people and has a positive attitude all the time…



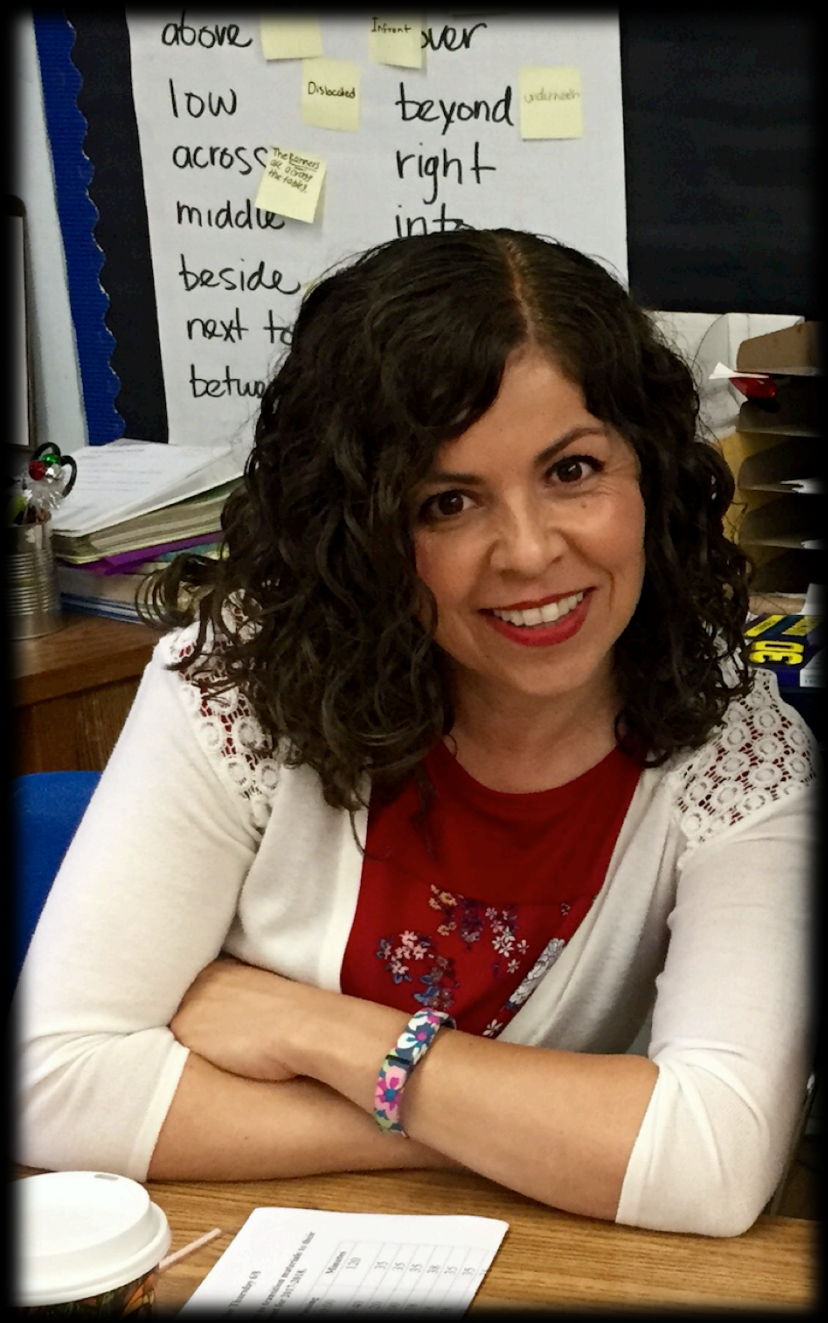
Ron Ngo

Math & Science Teacher



She was Teacher of the Year and is considered an MVP when it comes to reclassifying her students…





Maria Escoto

ELA, History and ELD Teacher

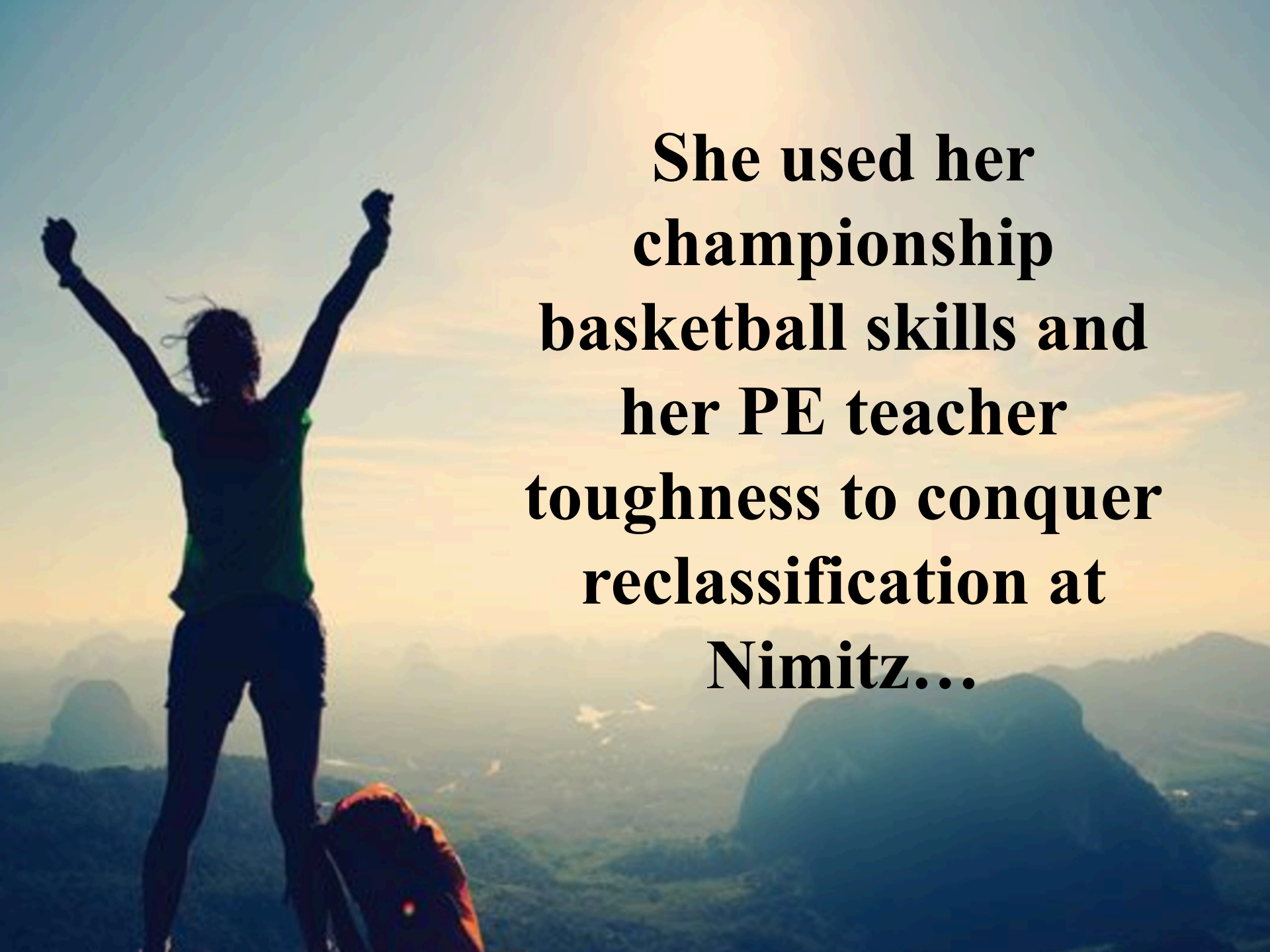
She persevered through the whole race and created scientists of the next generation…



Erin Smale

Science Teacher and SRLA Coach

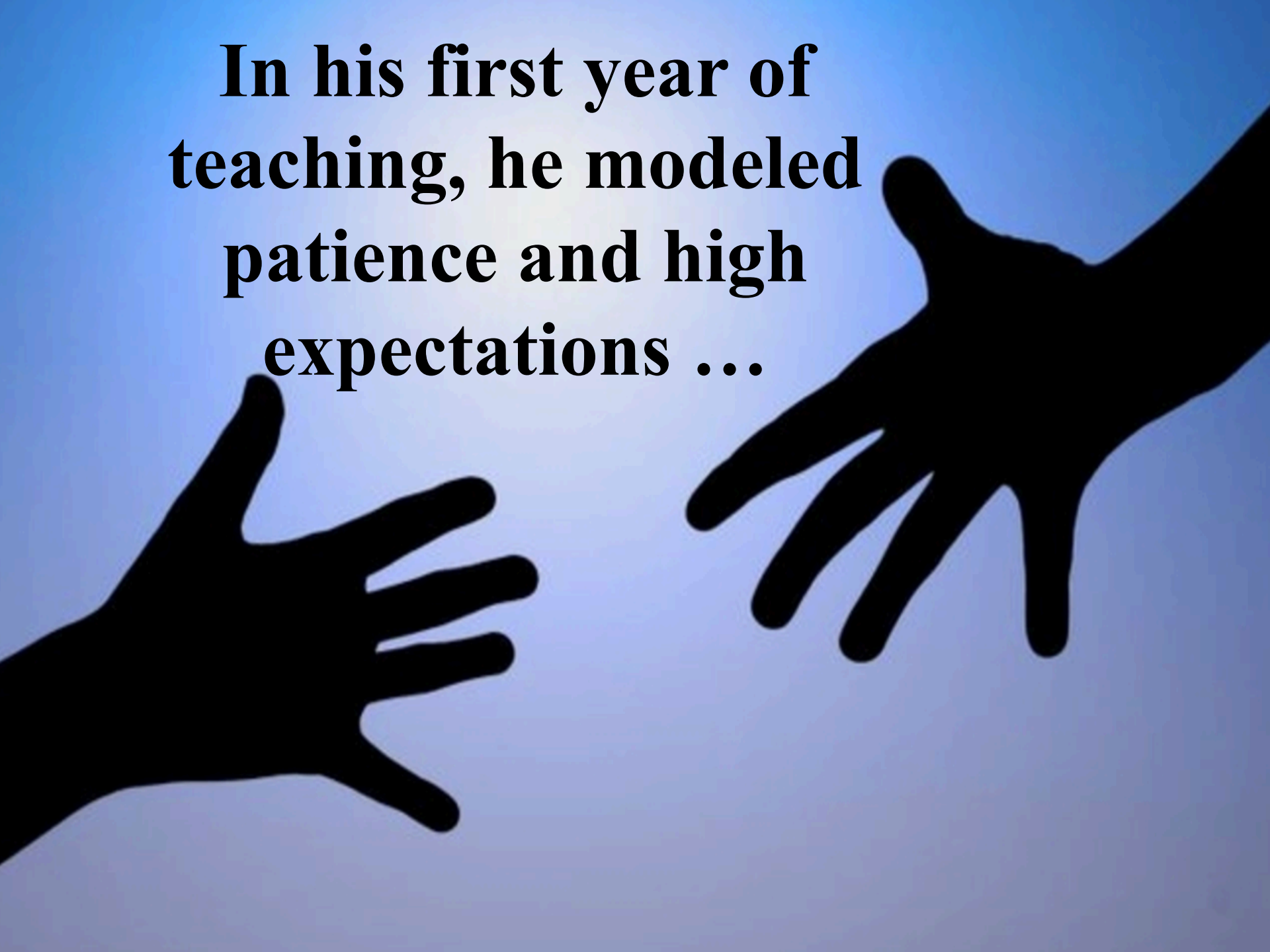



She used her championship basketball skills and her PE teacher toughness to conquer reclassification at Nimitz…



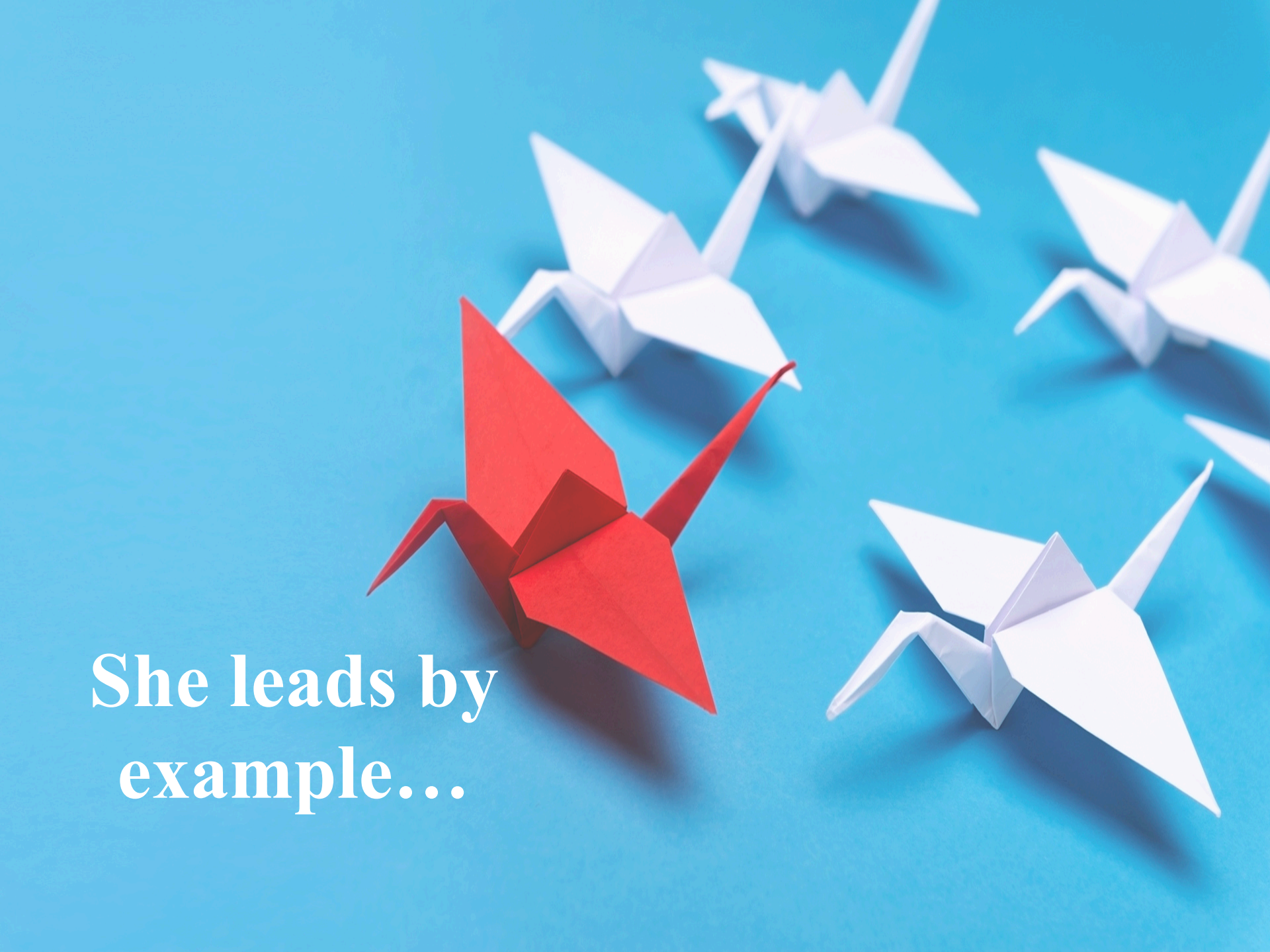
Adrianna Valenzuela

Title III Coach


In his first year of teaching, he modeled patience and high expectations …

Jose Tafoya
Special Education Teacher




She leads by
example…

Tiffany Smith
ELA and History Teacher



He stood for fairness, contracts and the students he served most of all…



Griffith Harty
Special
Education
Teacher
& UTLA
Chapter Chair



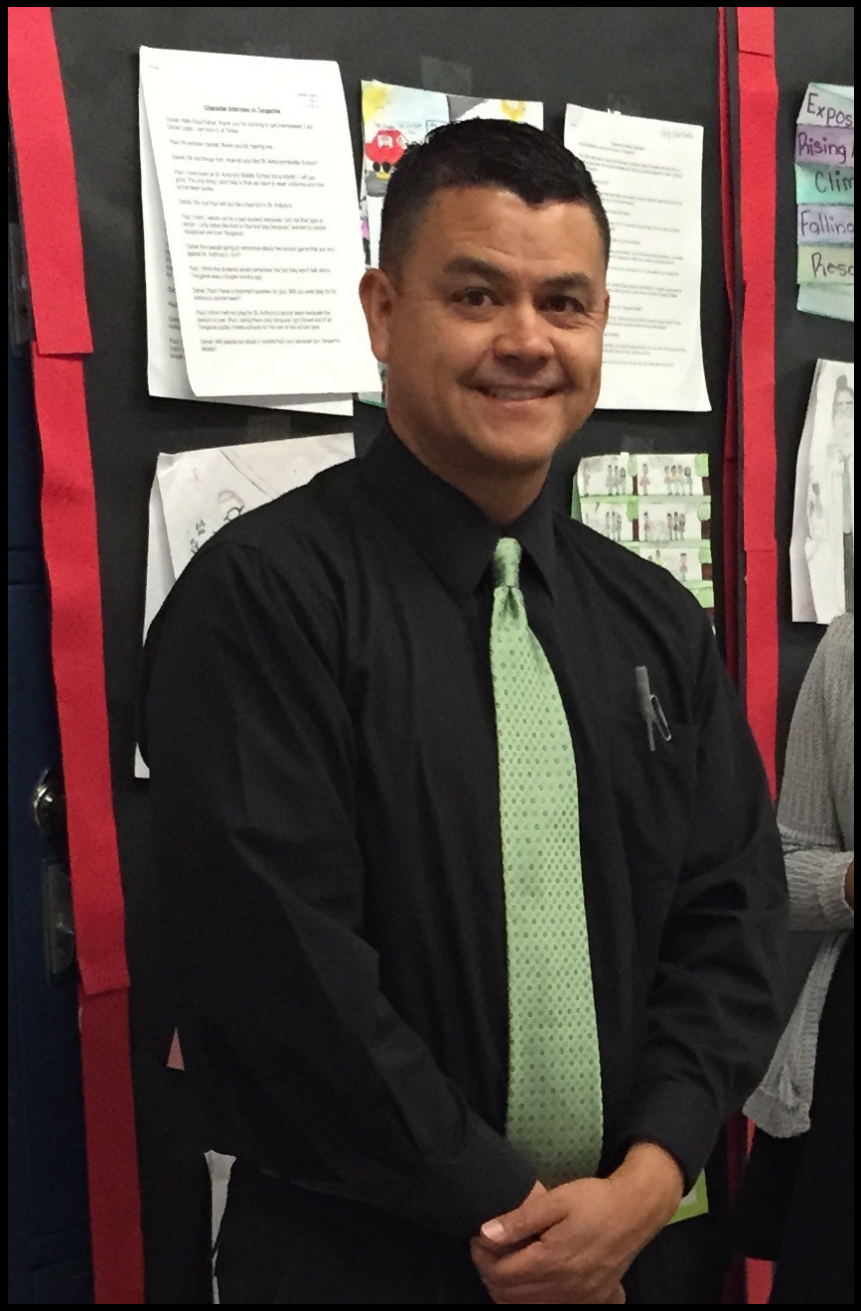

She took a group of 7th graders who needed to reclassify and helped them EXCEL…

Teresa Padilla
Math, Science and
AVID EXCEL
Teacher



He never gave up on a student and stepped up to be his mentor…





Francisco Munoz

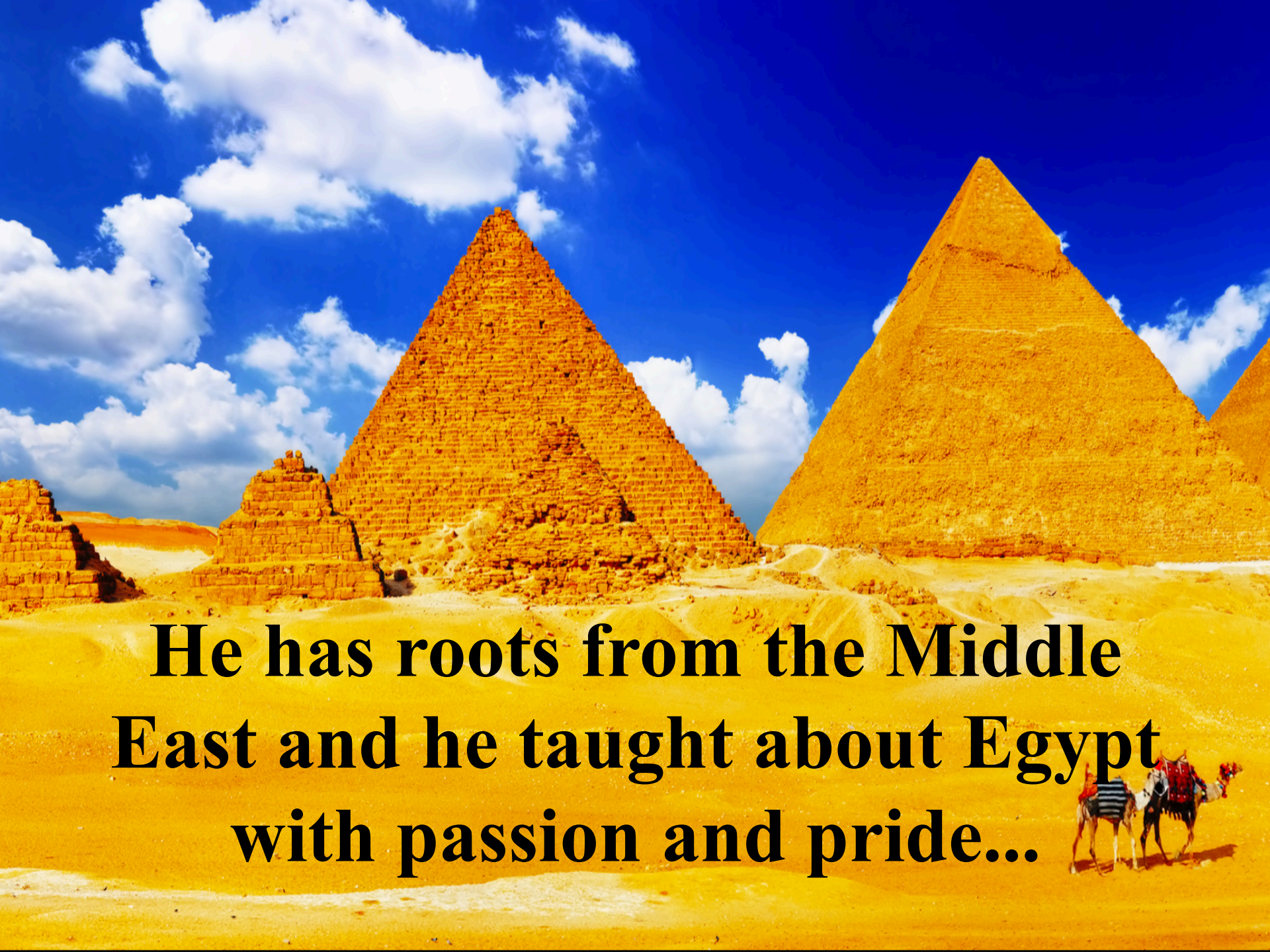
Math Teacher

They are both inspirational math teachers who had the courage to make one big bold decision…

Maria Camarena
Math Teacher



Diana Amador
Math Teacher


He has roots from the Middle East and he taught about Egypt with passion and pride...



Joel Najjar

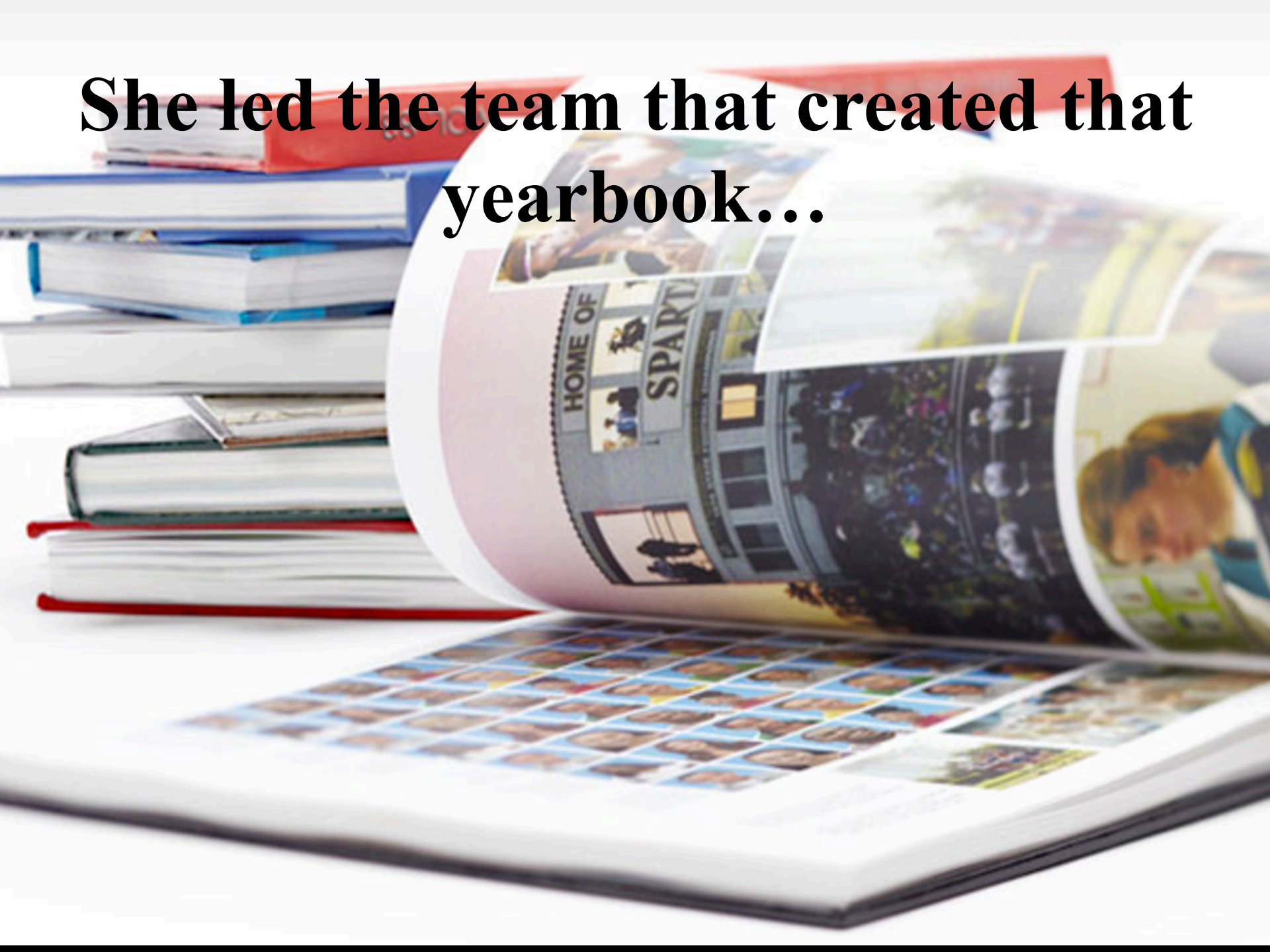
Math and Science Teacher


His energy never ends and his smile is infectious…

Darius Simmons
Special Education Teacher



She led the team that created that yearbook…





Van Han
ELA Teacher
and Yearbook
Advisor


They reclassified 87 students this year. Their goal was 66…

Julio Pulido, Jose Coria, Pedro Murillo, Darius Simmons, Maria Escoto, Armando Tejeda, Adrianna Valenzuela and Melissa Meza

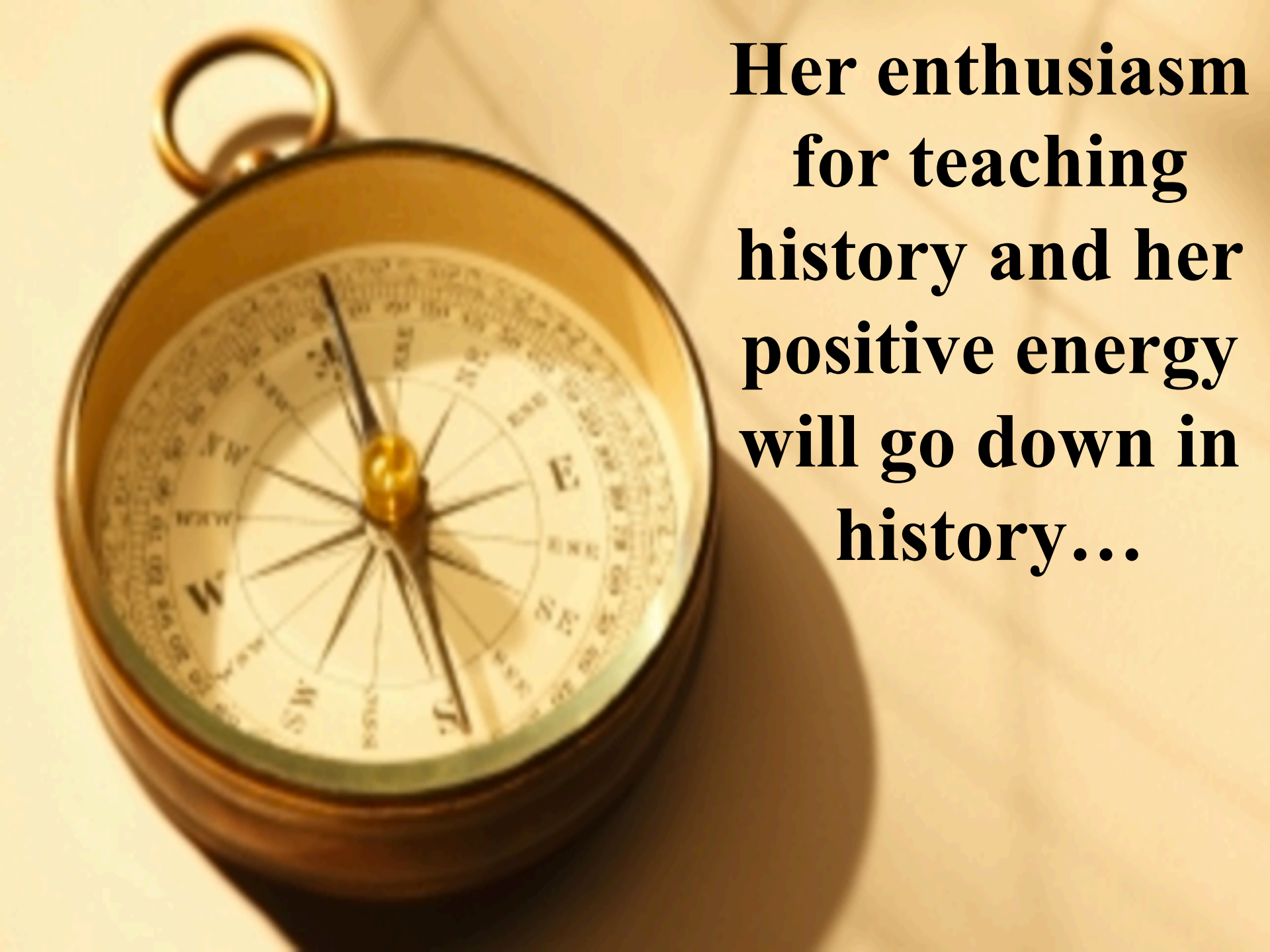




His teaching is music to our ears…

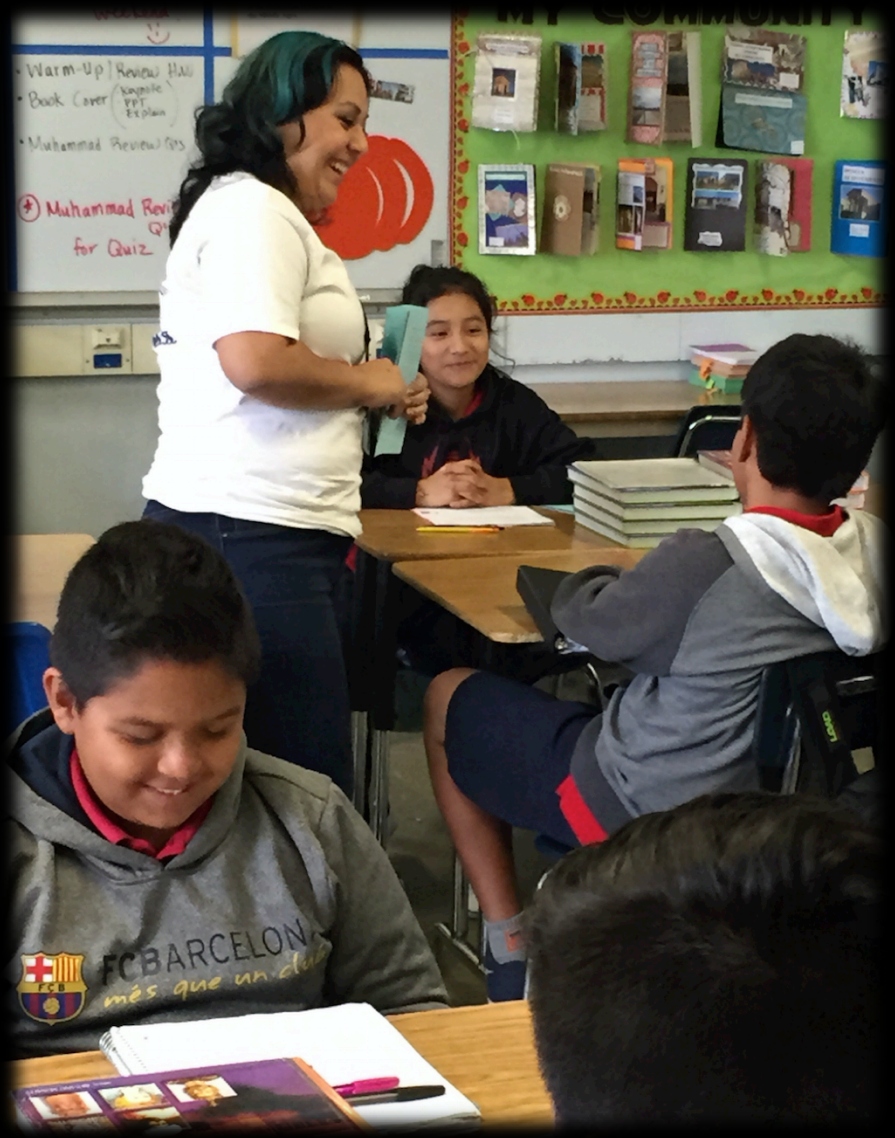


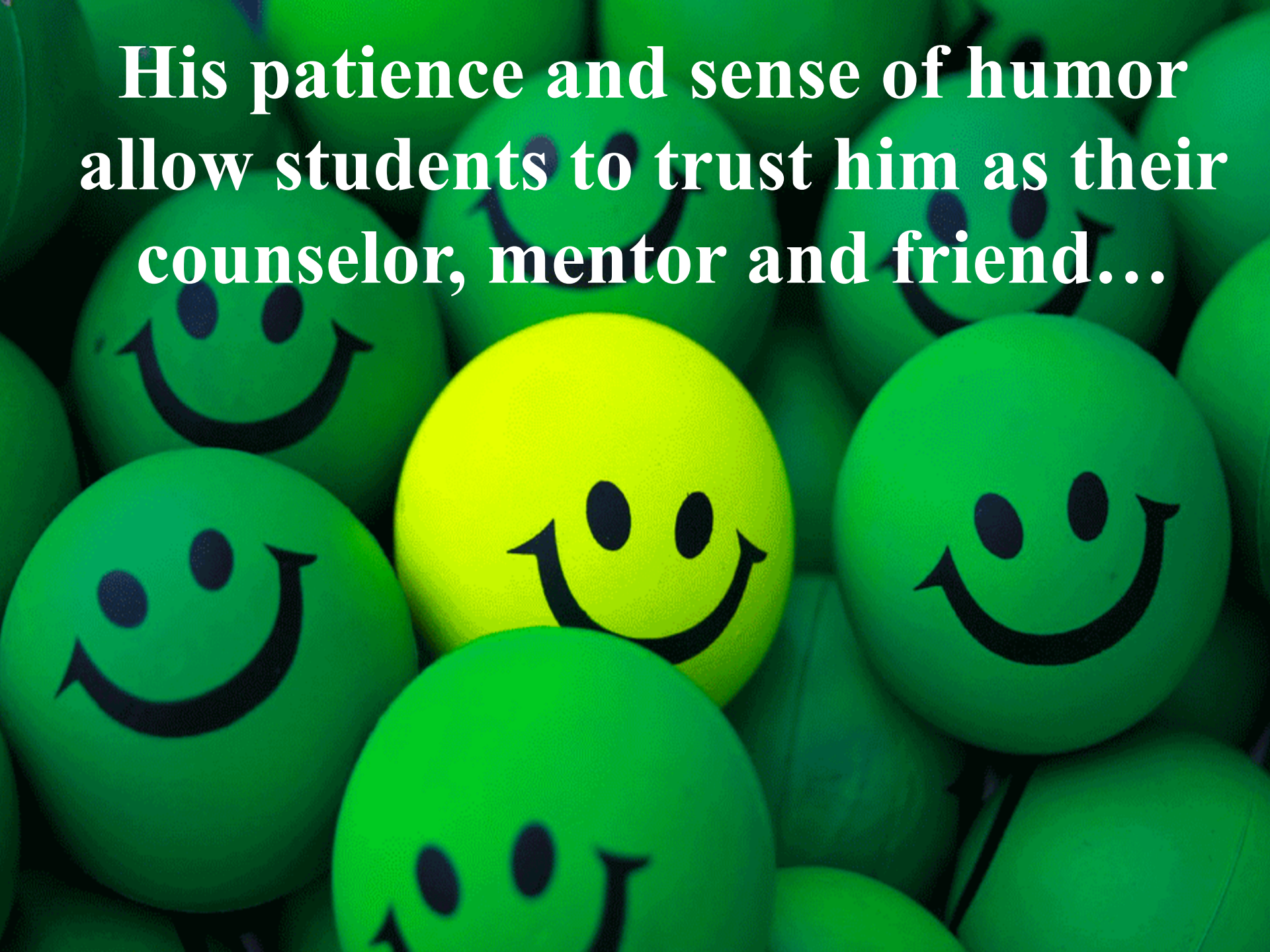
Timothy Suits
Music Teacher


Her enthusiasm for teaching history and her positive energy will go down in history…

Lucy Mendez

History Teacher




His patience and sense of humor allow students to trust him as their counselor, mentor and friend…



Hilario Espinoza

Counselor


This amazing team inspires fitness, active lifestyles and athletic participation in our students…

Charles McClelland,
Debbie Young,
Collette Seguine,
Guillermina Mejia,
Gloria Amador,
Daniel Gonzalez
and Merced Muro



Physical Education
Teachers

He cheers the loudest for his students success…



Chidi Nwandiko
Science Teacher



Their amazing compassion for the needs of students and others…

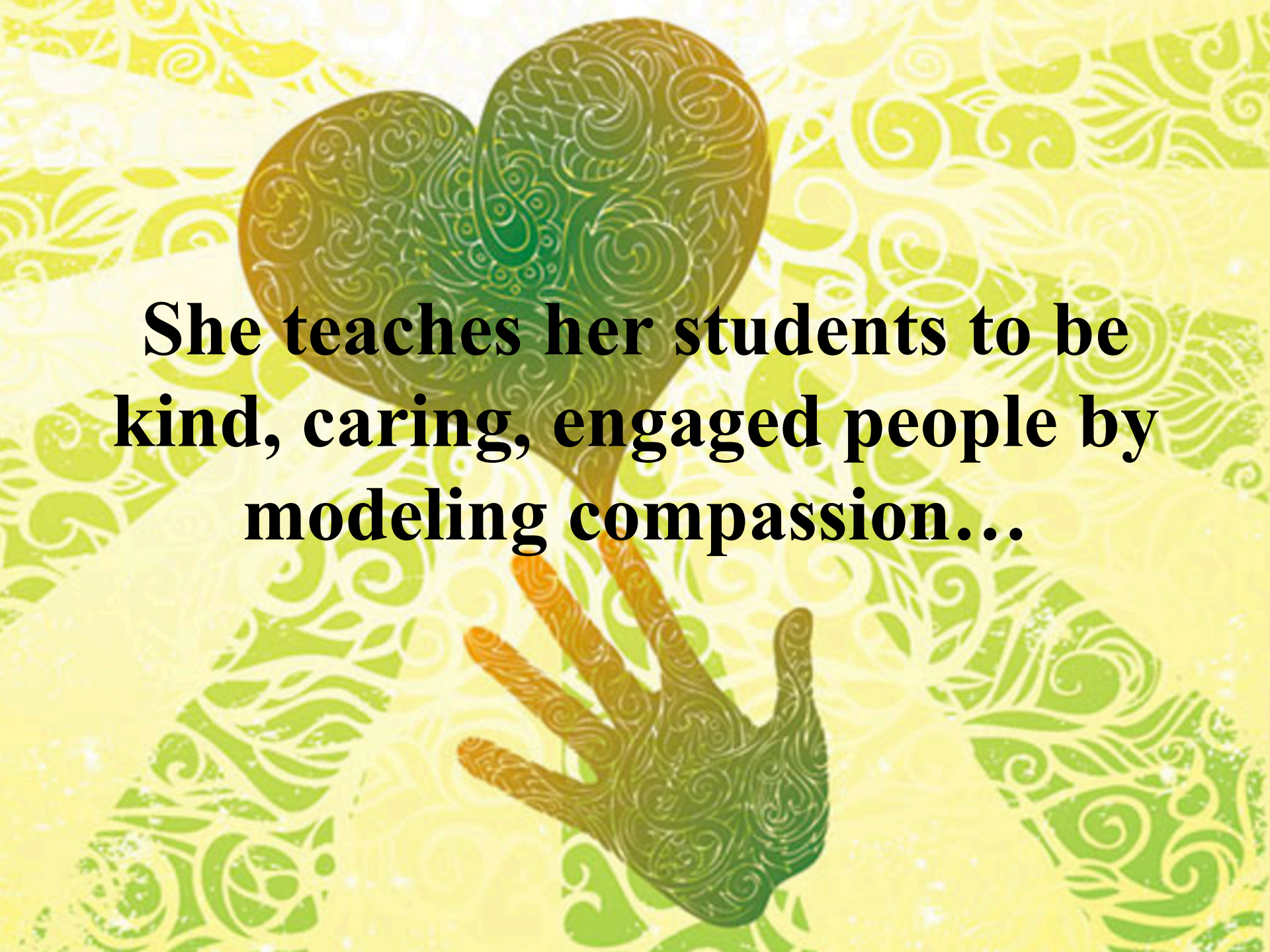
She is their mama…

He is their advocate…

James Brett
Special Education Teacher



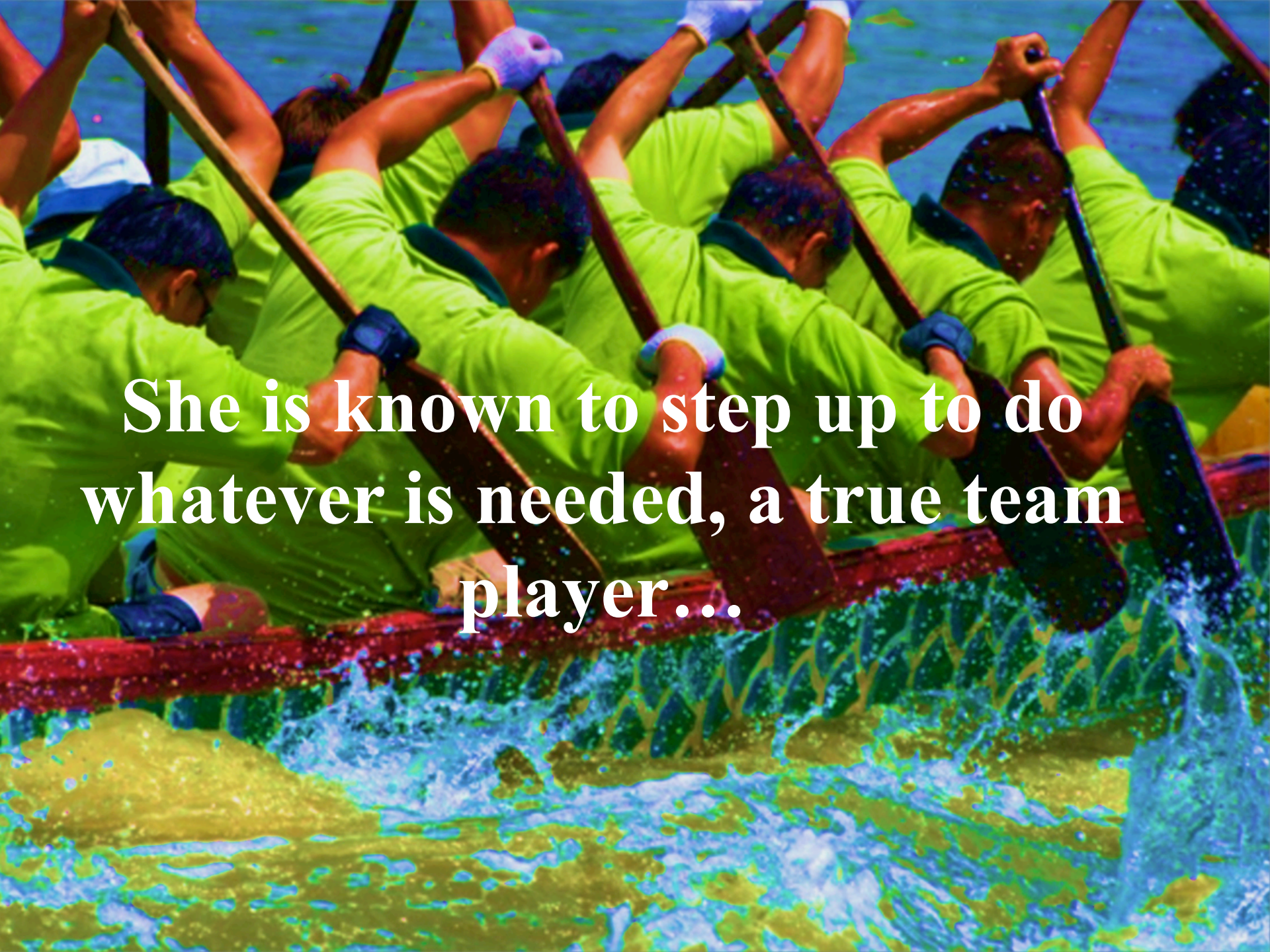
Lynette Ferraro
Special Education Teacher


She teaches her students to be kind, caring, engaged people by modeling compassion…



Alicia Herrera

History and ELA Teacher


She is known to step up to do whatever is needed, a true team player…



Glenda Ramirez
ELA and History Teacher

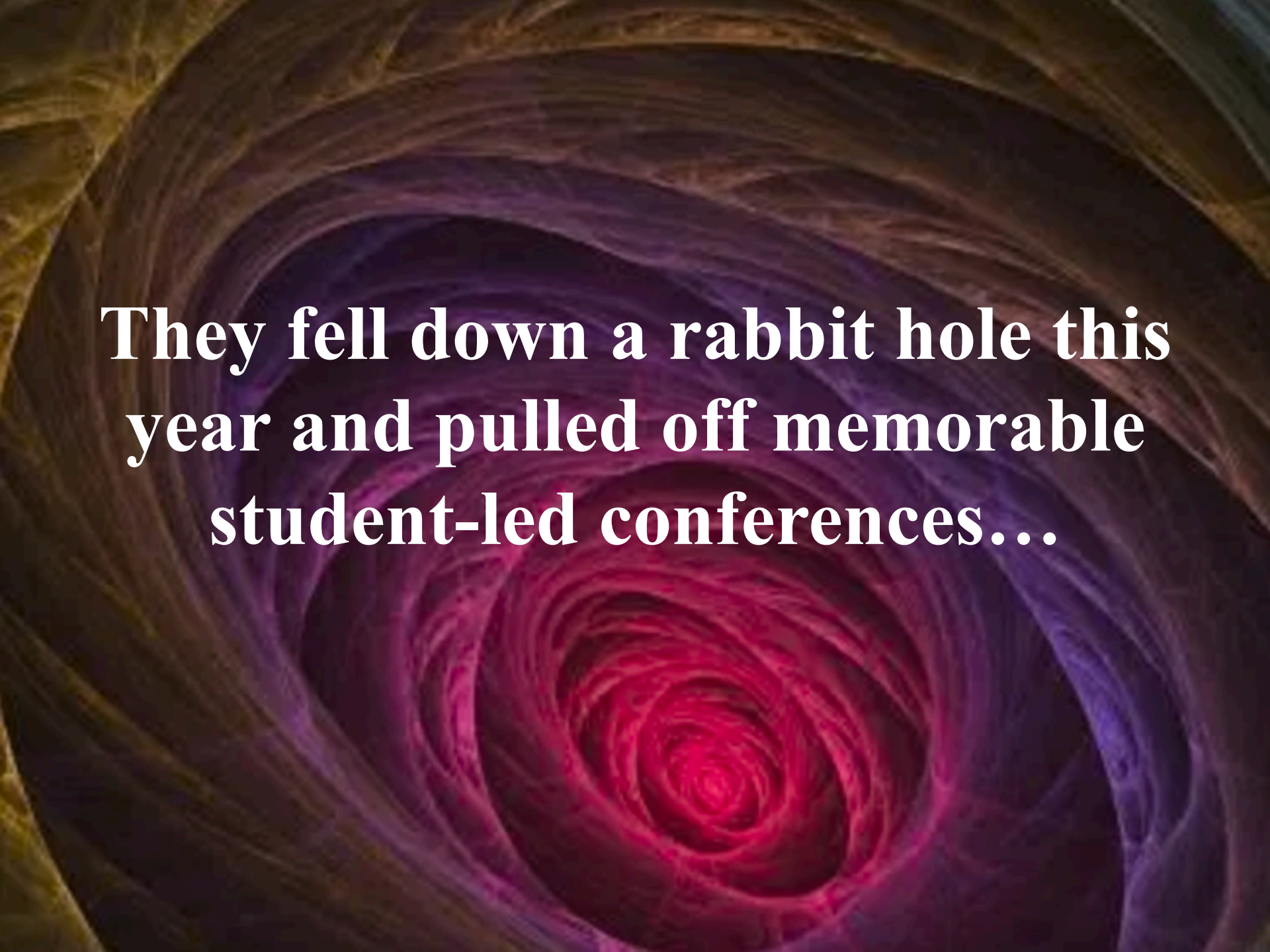
He loves science so much he let the students study his own cellular make-up…

Roger Salisch

Science

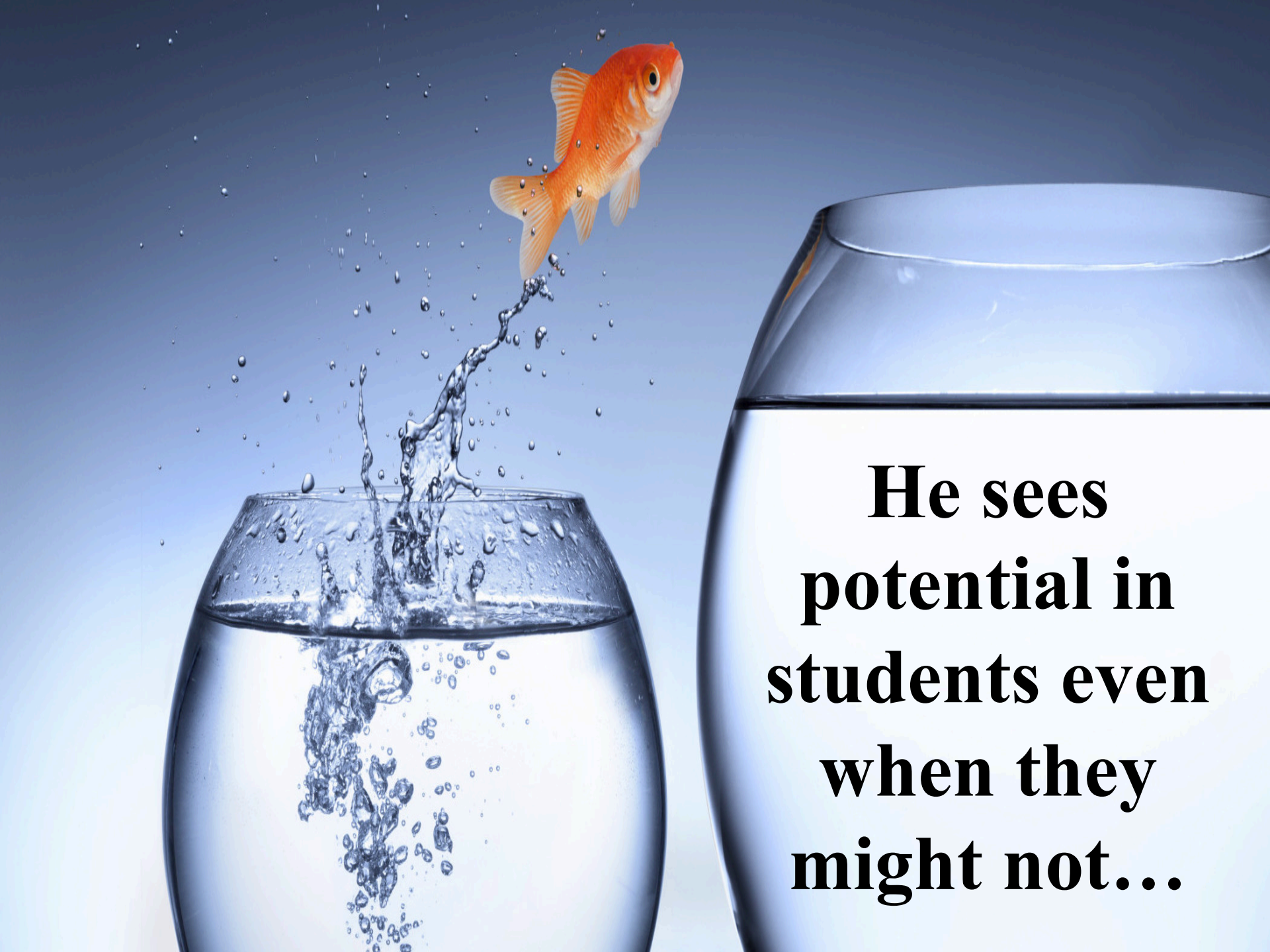
Teacher




They fell down a rabbit hole this year and pulled off memorable student-led conferences…

Nimitz Magnet School



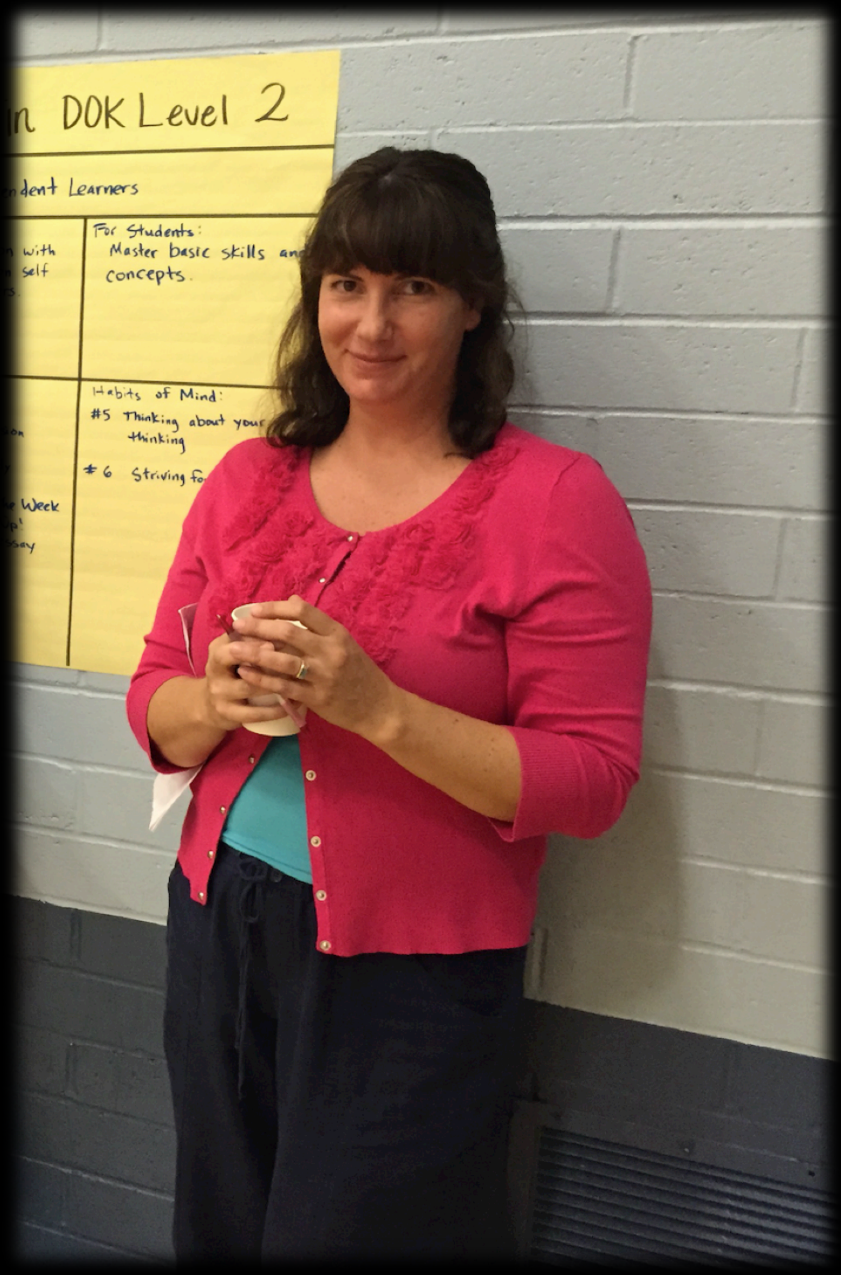

He sees potential in students even when they might not…



Walter Mejia
Science Teacher

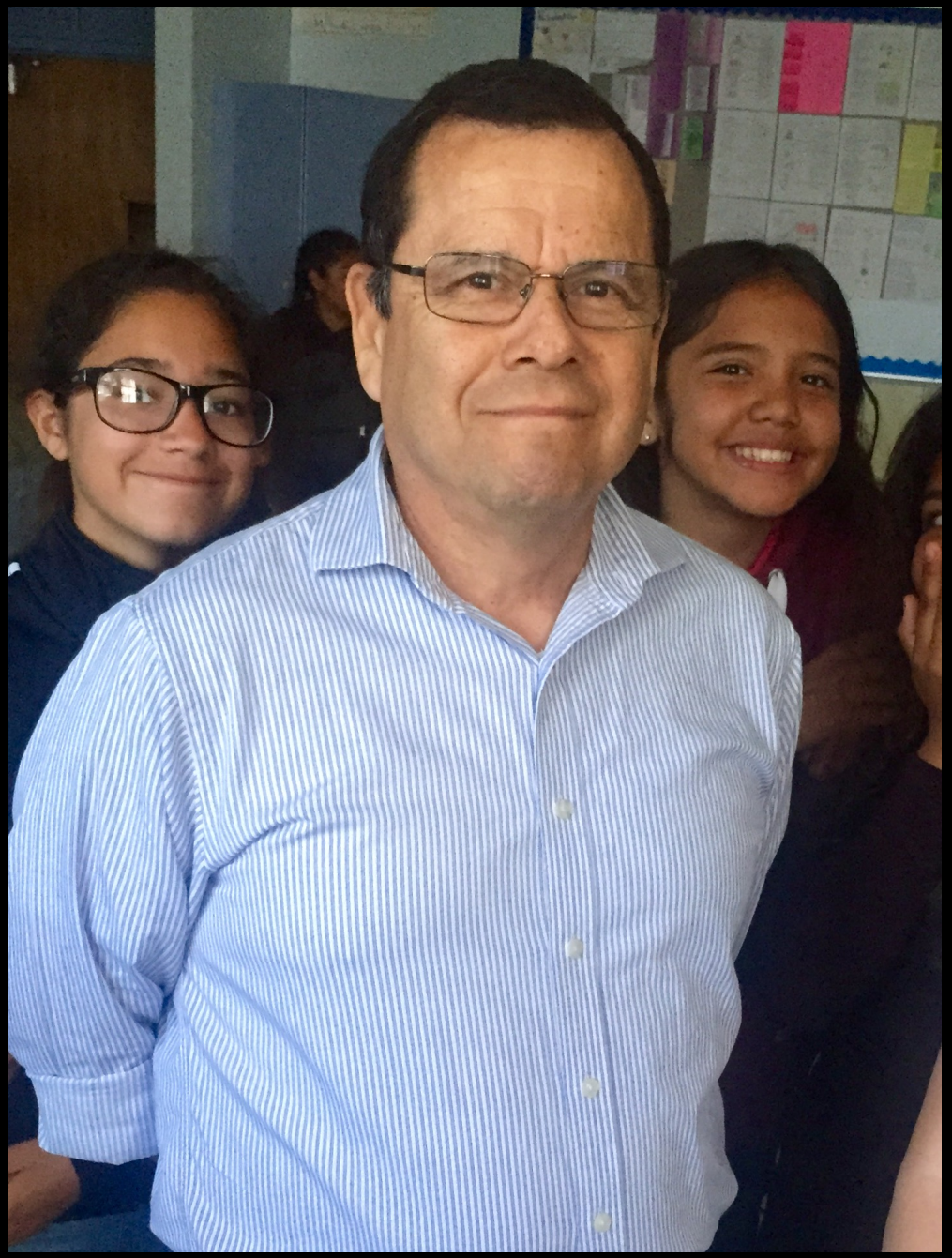

She believes in second chances
for her students…

Keely Ziegler
History Teacher

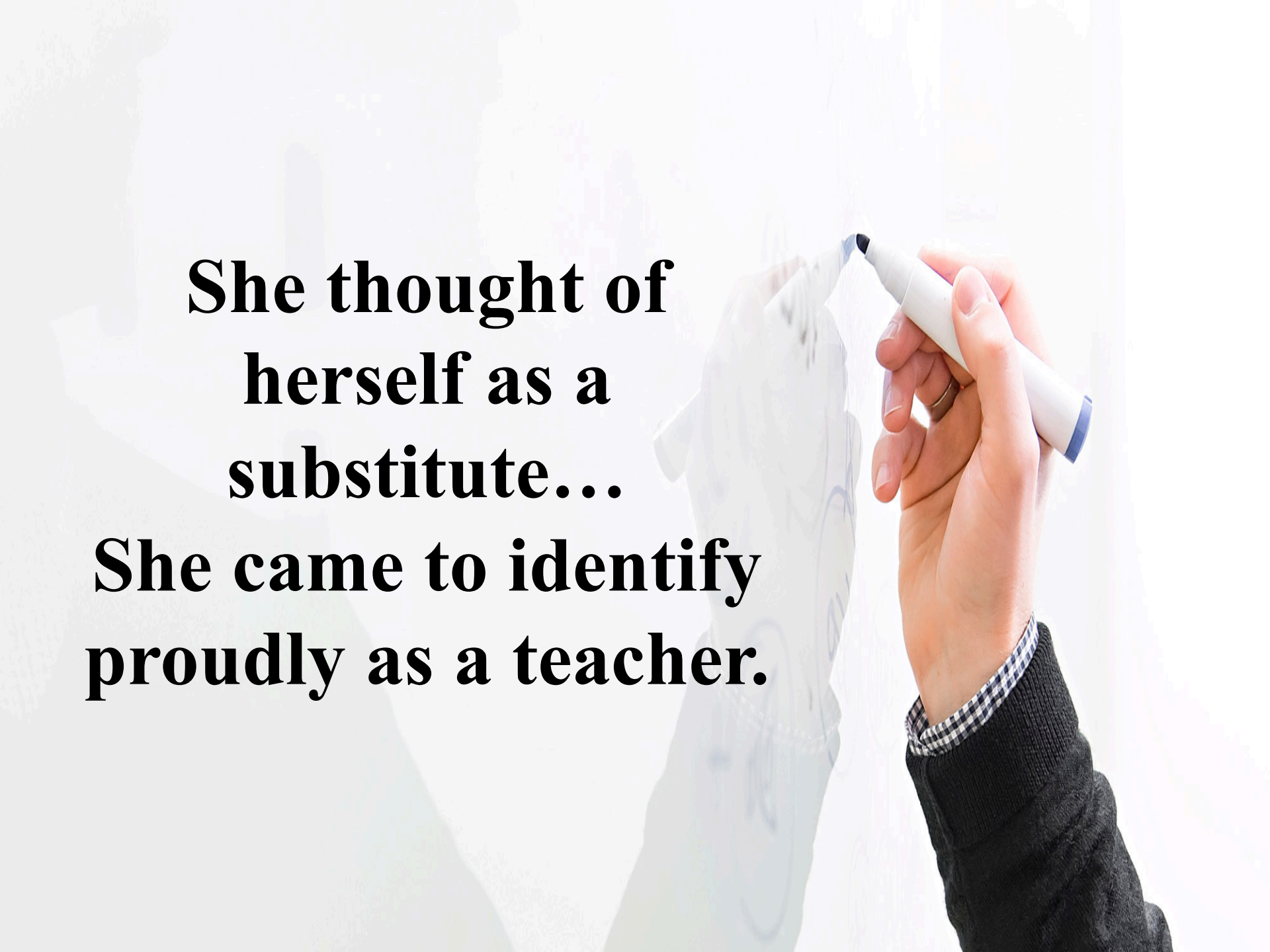


Cool,
calm
and
collected…

Antonio Morales
Science Teacher



She thought of herself as a substitute…
She came to identify proudly as a teacher.





Guadalupe Diaz

ELA Teacher


She
bought a
hungry student
a gift card for food
and groceries from
her own money…

Noemi Hernandez
Special Education Teacher




His strong
connections with
the students are
his legacy…

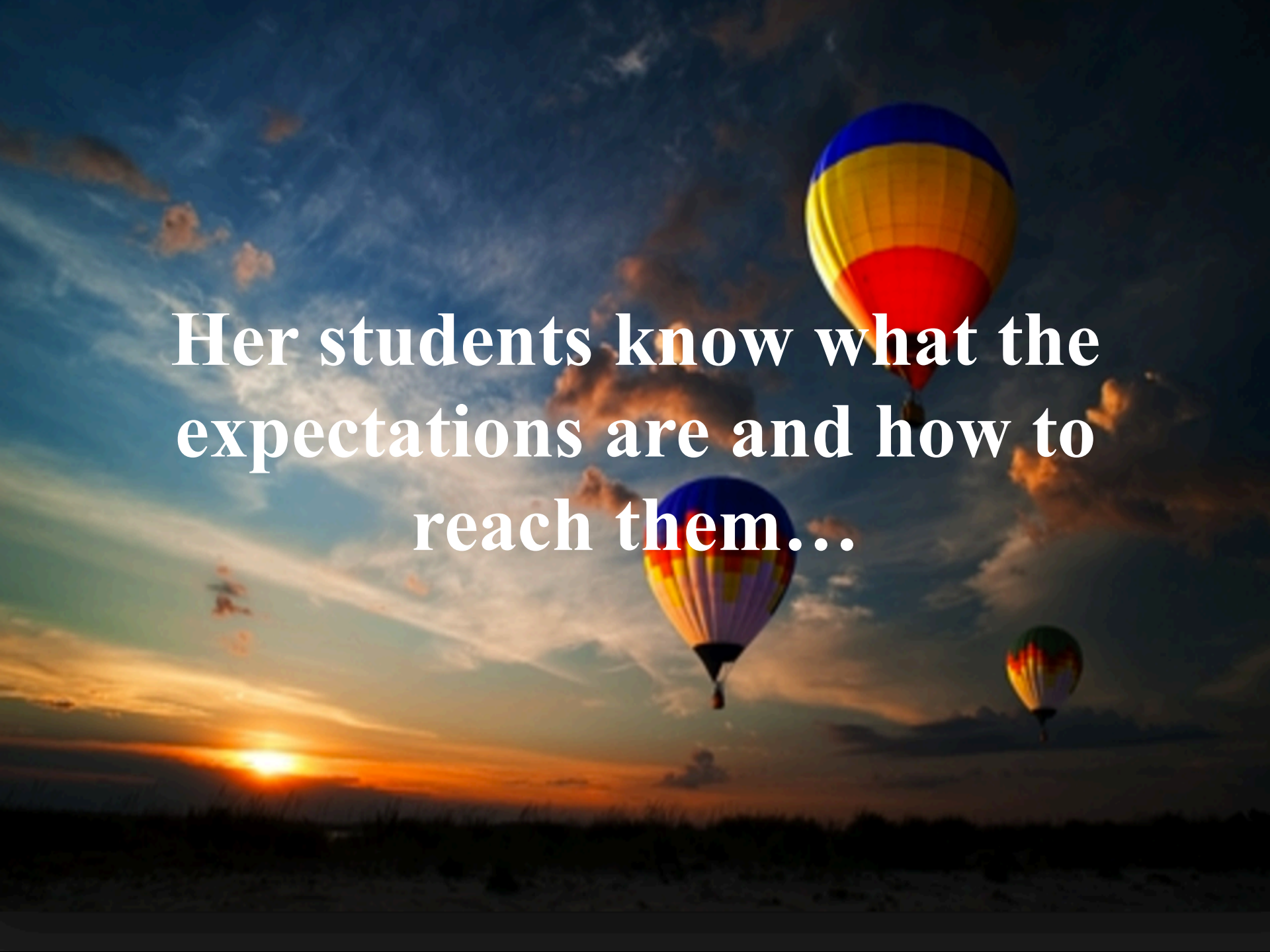


Eric Klein
Science
Teacher

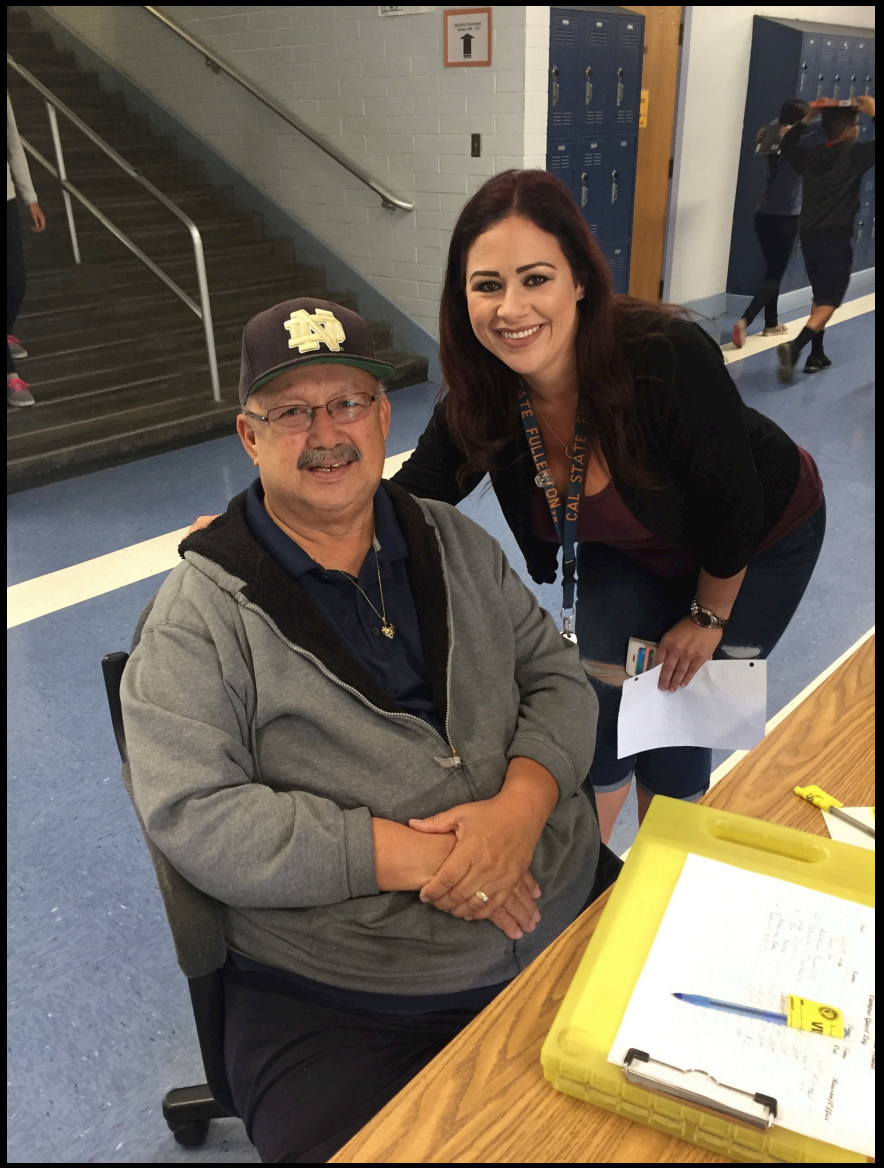
He sees parents as his partners in educating his students…

Charles Bigham
Science Teacher




Her students know what the expectations are and how to reach them…

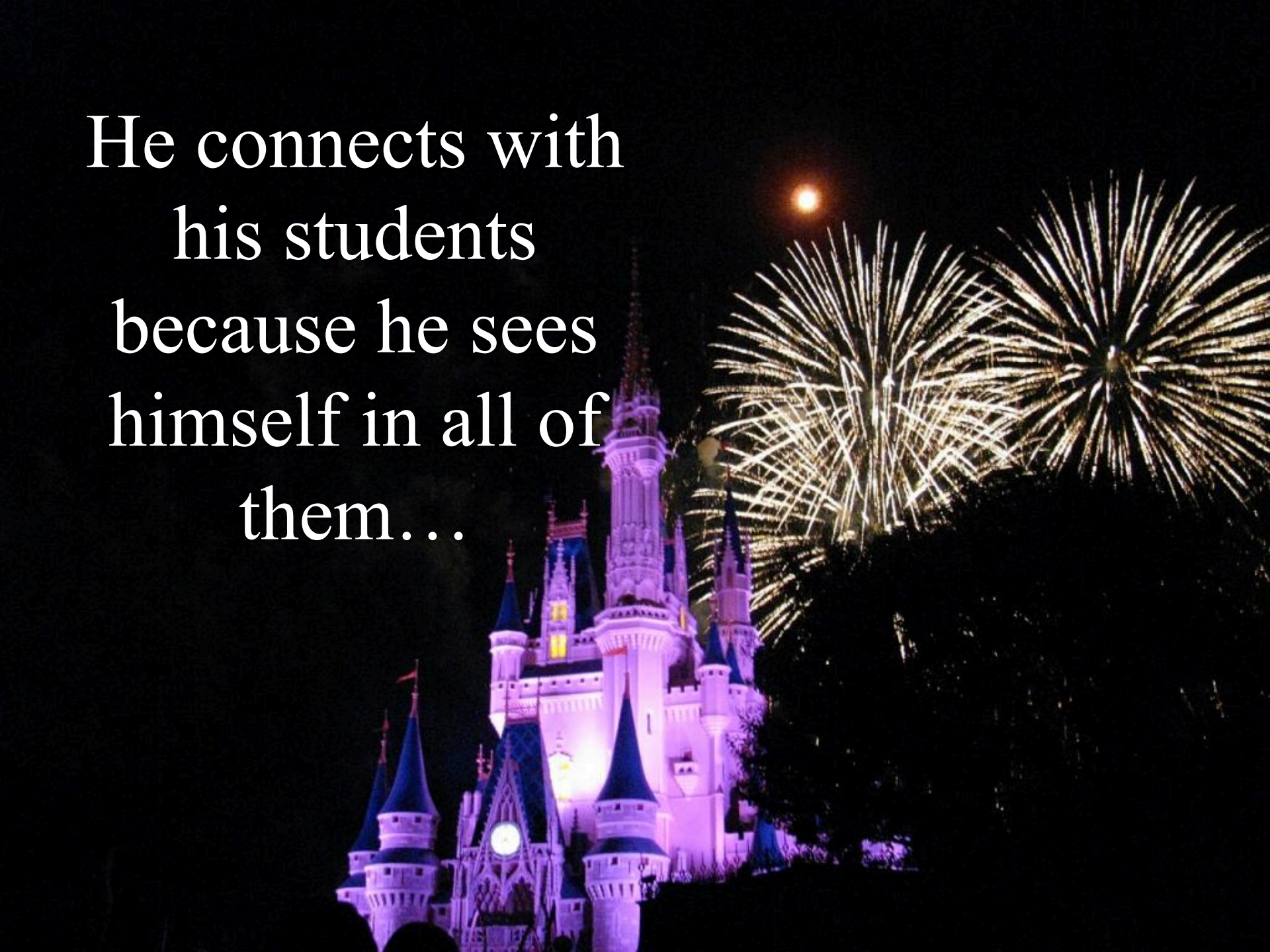
Elisha Meave
History
Teacher

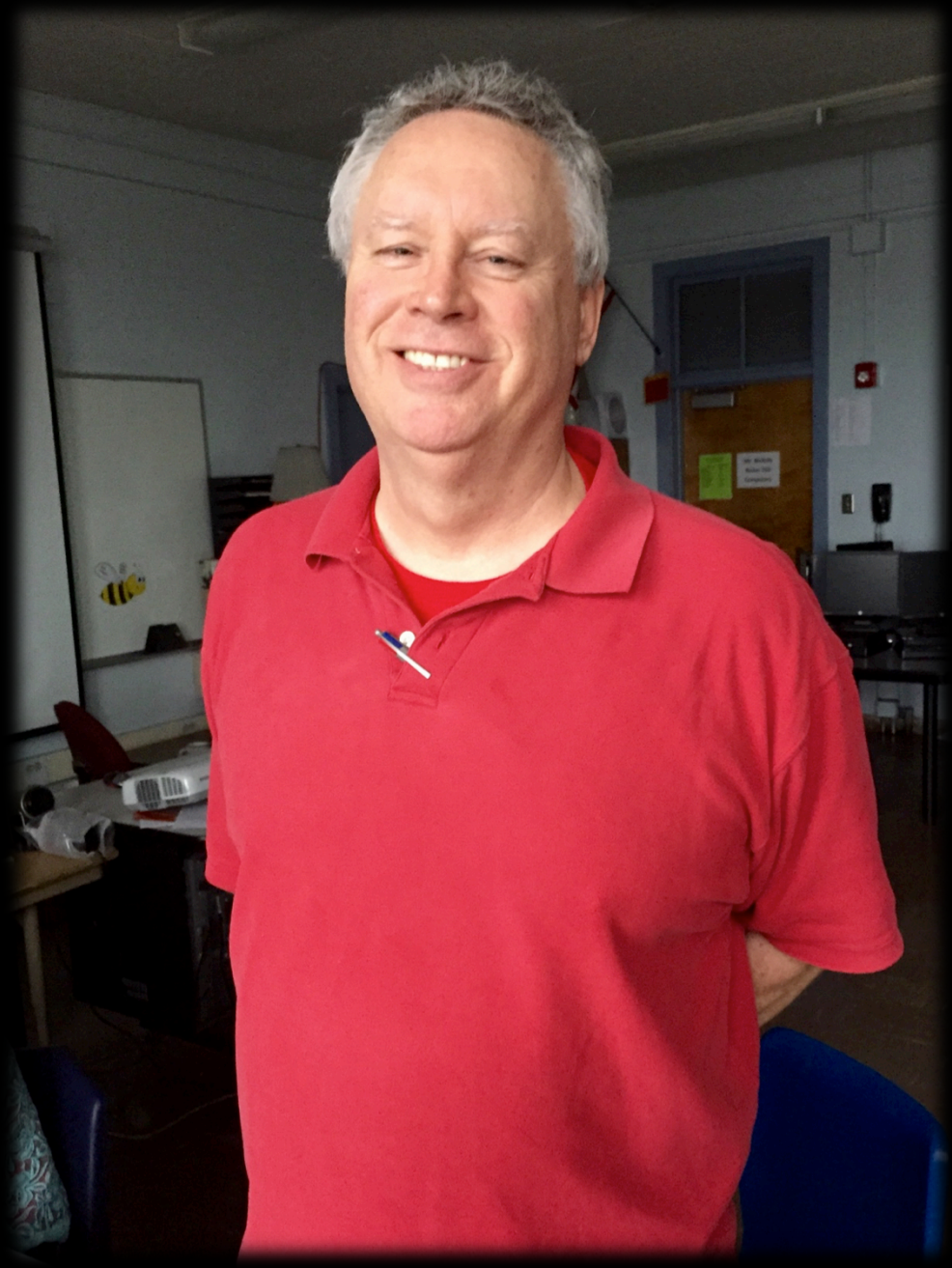



He skates, but he can’t dab…

Jose Coria
ELA Teacher




He connects with his students because he sees himself in all of them…



Kirk Nichols
Computer Teacher

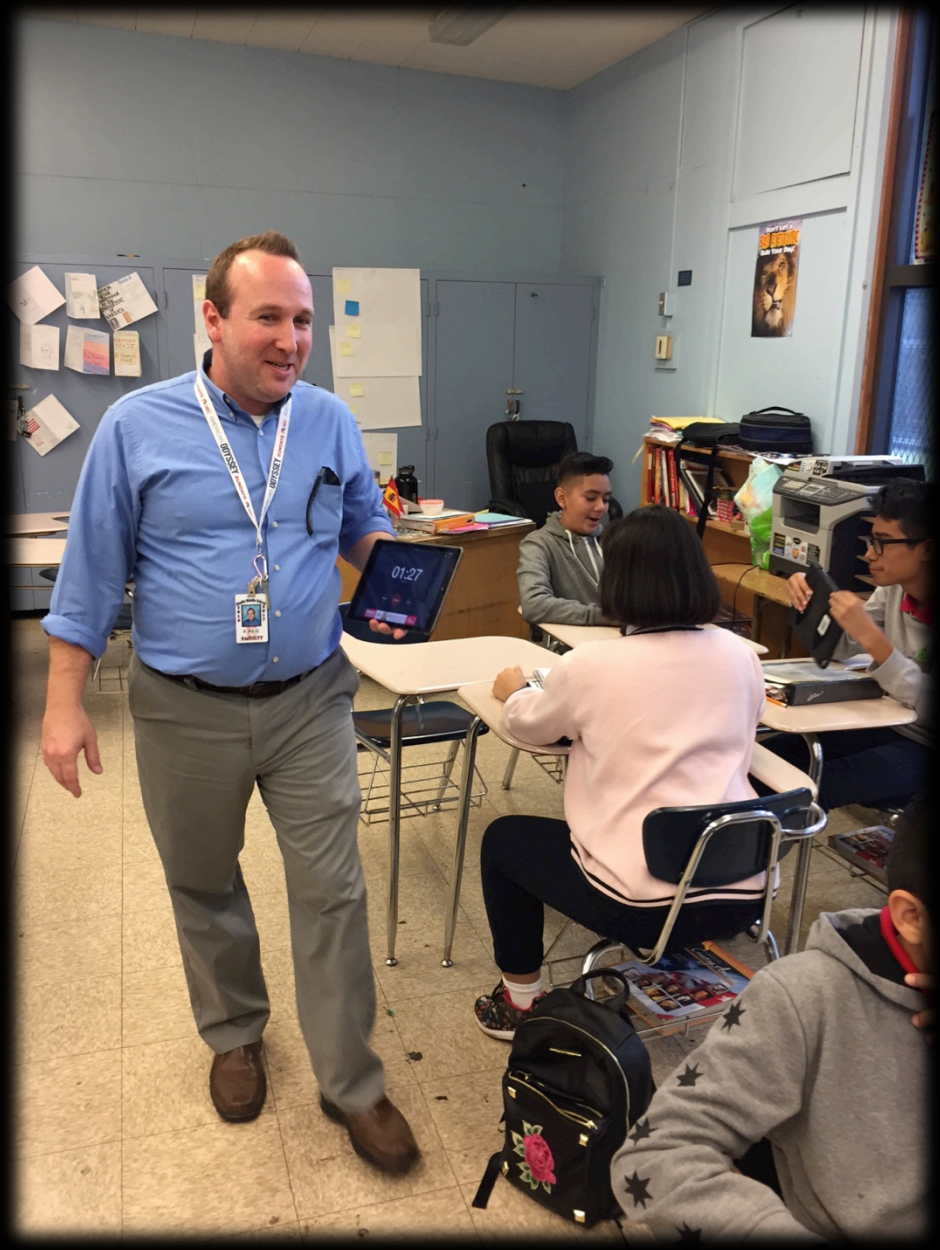

She turns learning experiences into memories…

Ana De Loera
ELA Teacher



He always begins with positive feedback, building rapport with his students…





Richard Kilic

History Teacher

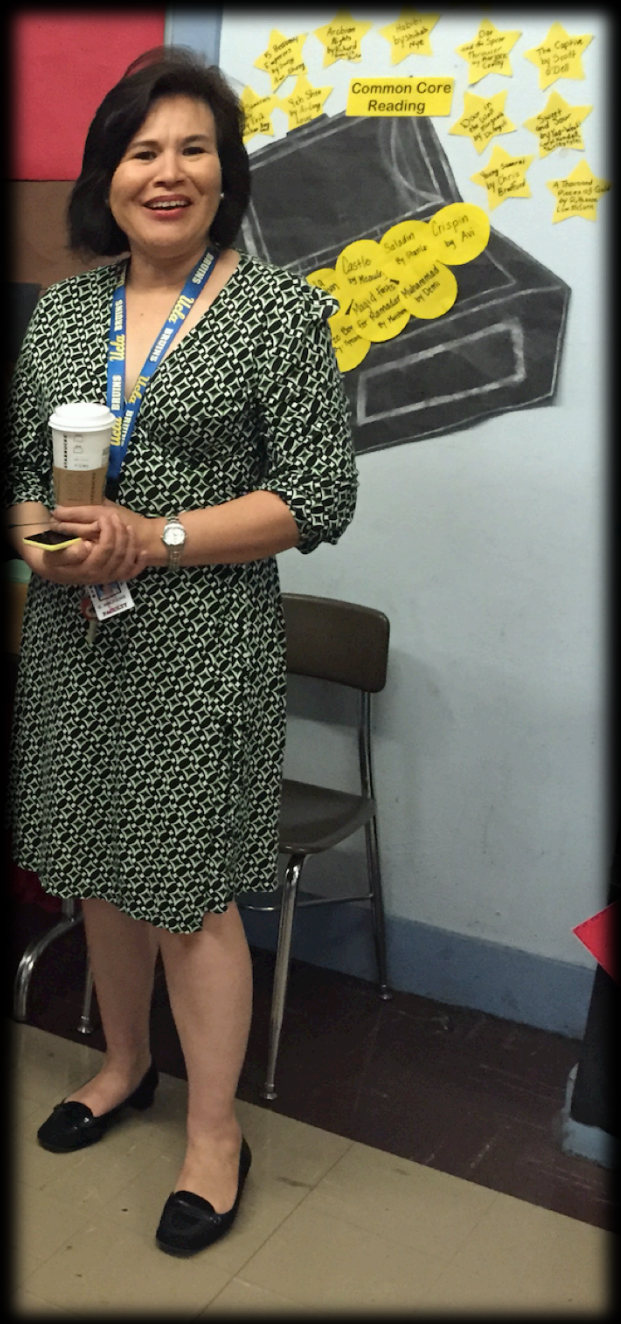

She anchors learning using primary resources to make history relevant…

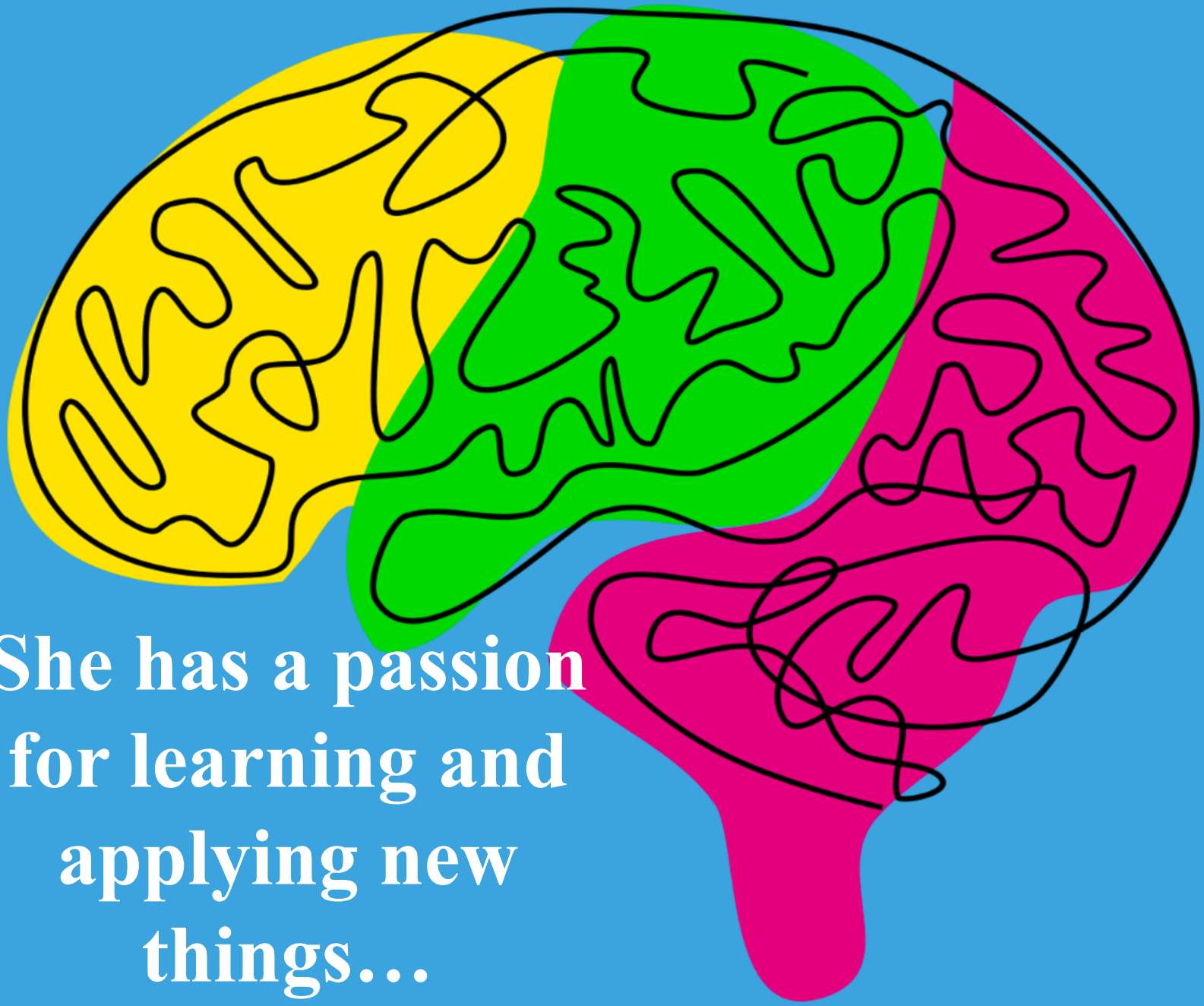
Susana Montano
History Teacher



She uses her voice and love for the students to ensure safety and learning at all times…

Sandra
Wickens
History Teacher





She has a passion for learning and applying new things…

Shannon Reilly

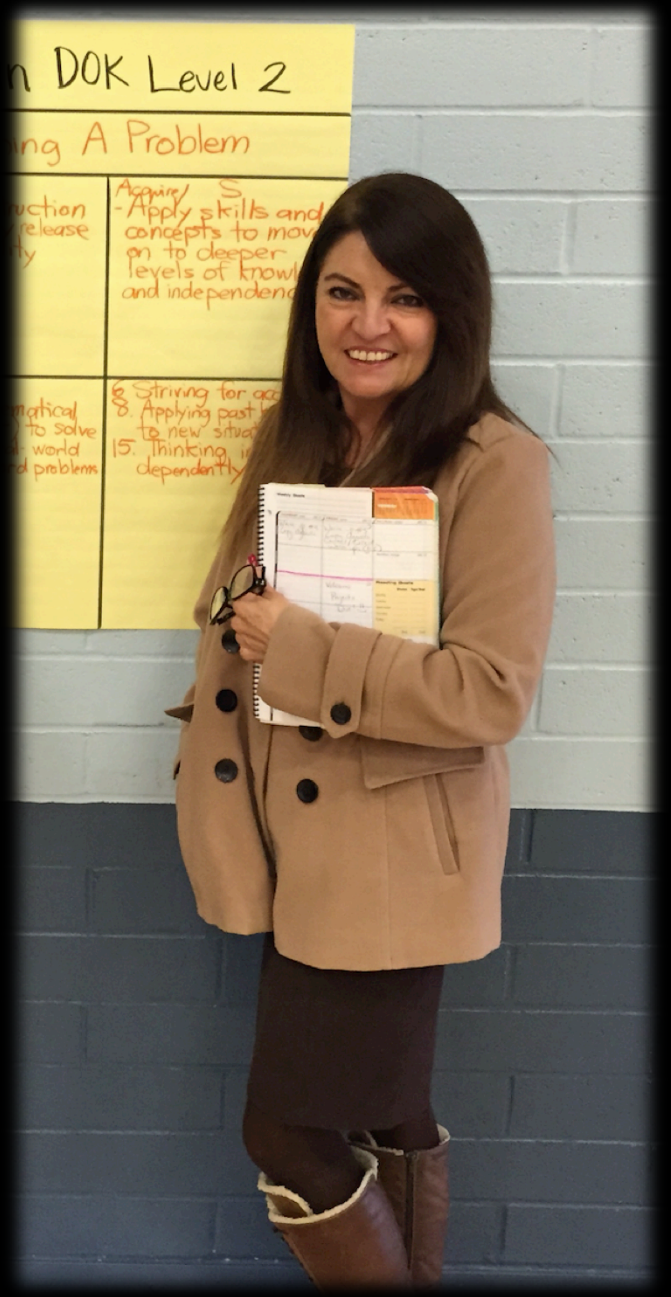
ELA Teacher



She taught her students to stand up for what they believe and where they come from…

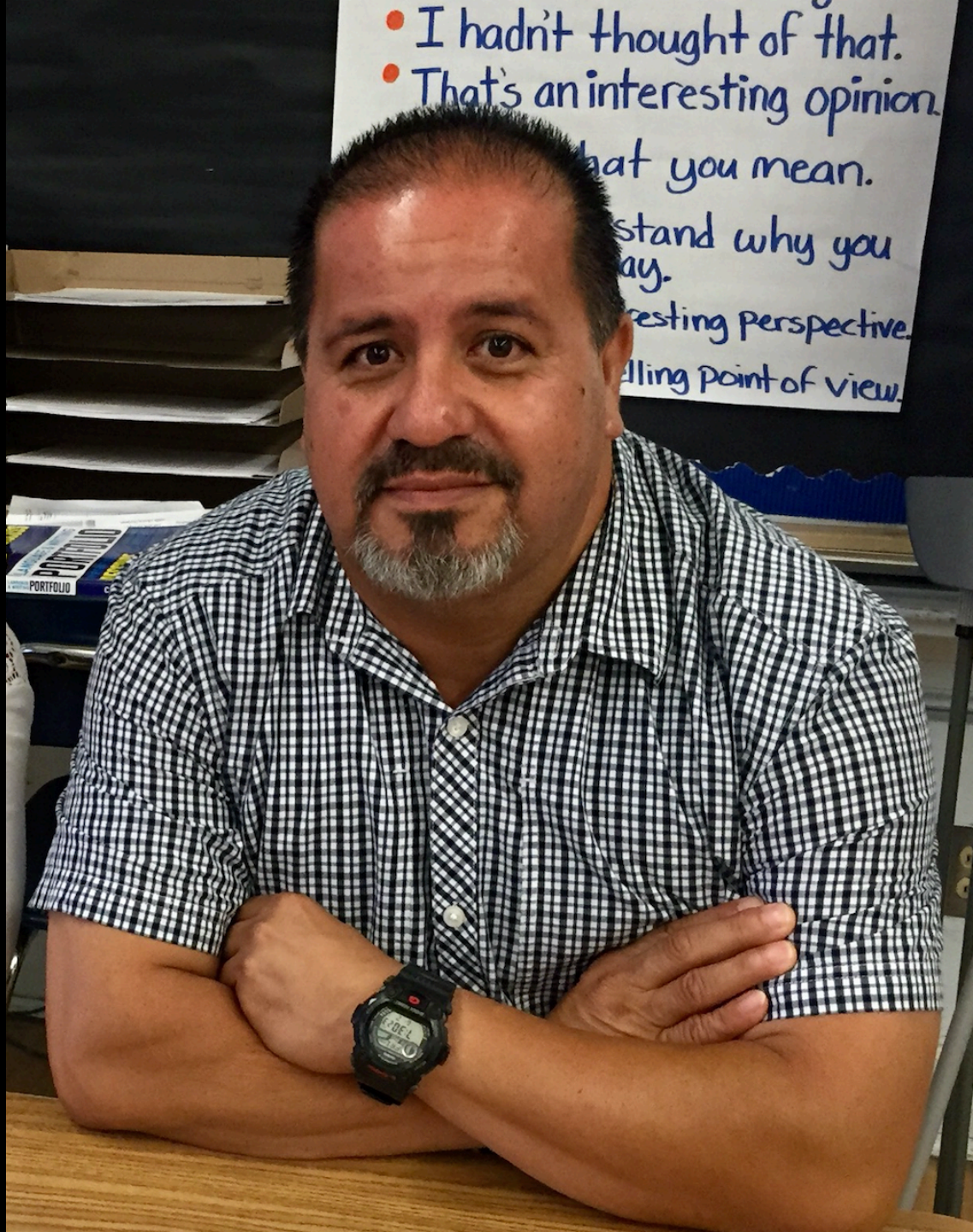


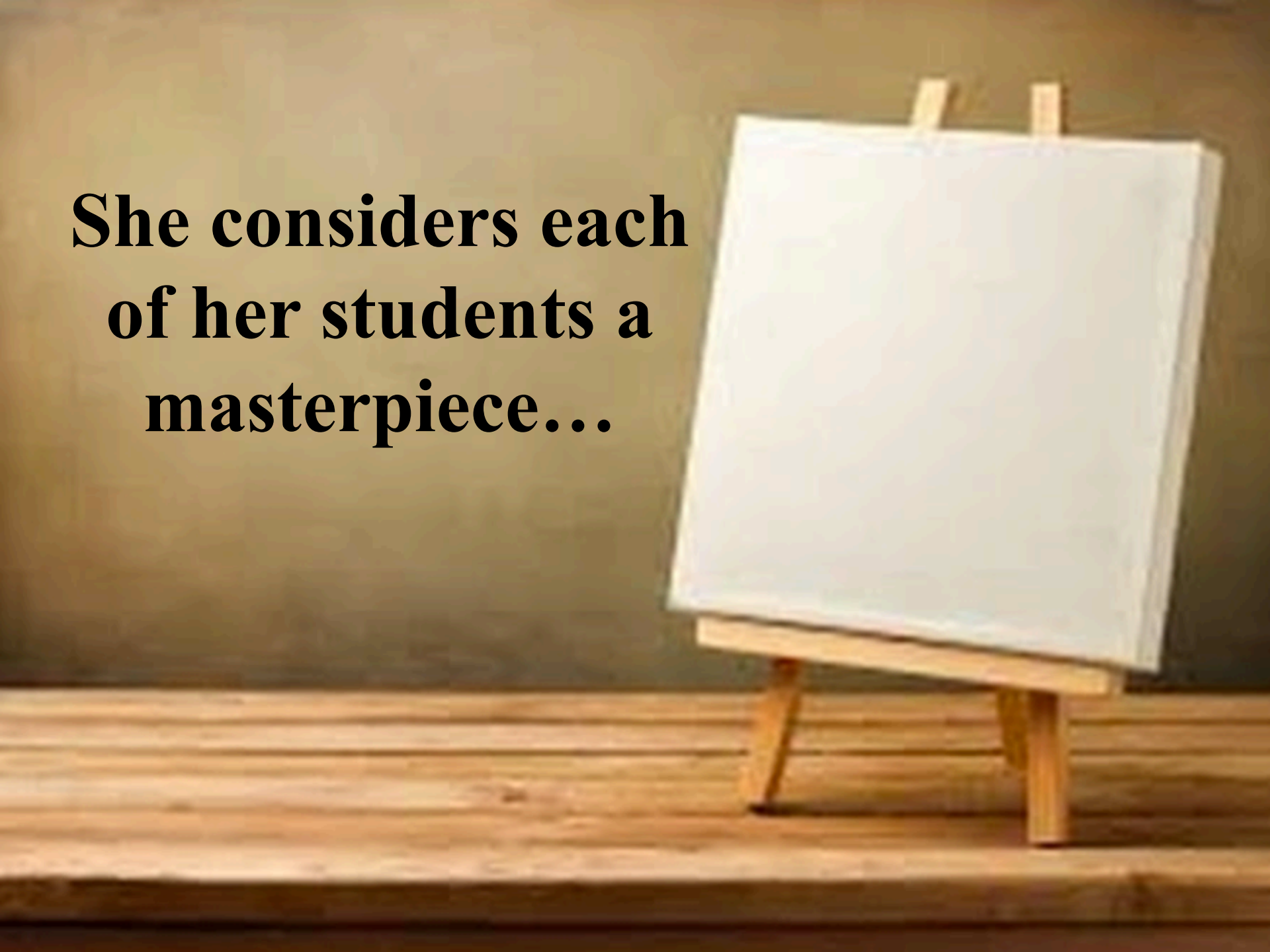
Theresa Orozco
Math and Science
Teacher

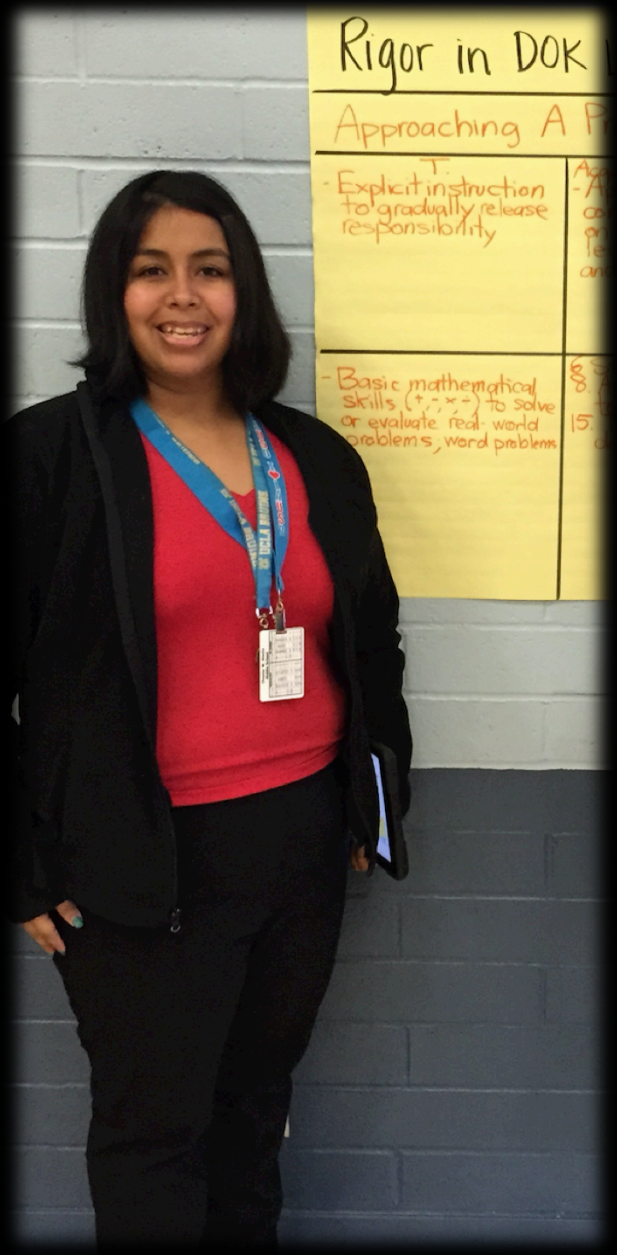



He spends his lunch with his students and it usually involves soccer…

Armando Tejeda
ELA and ELD Teacher




She considers each
of her students a
masterpiece…



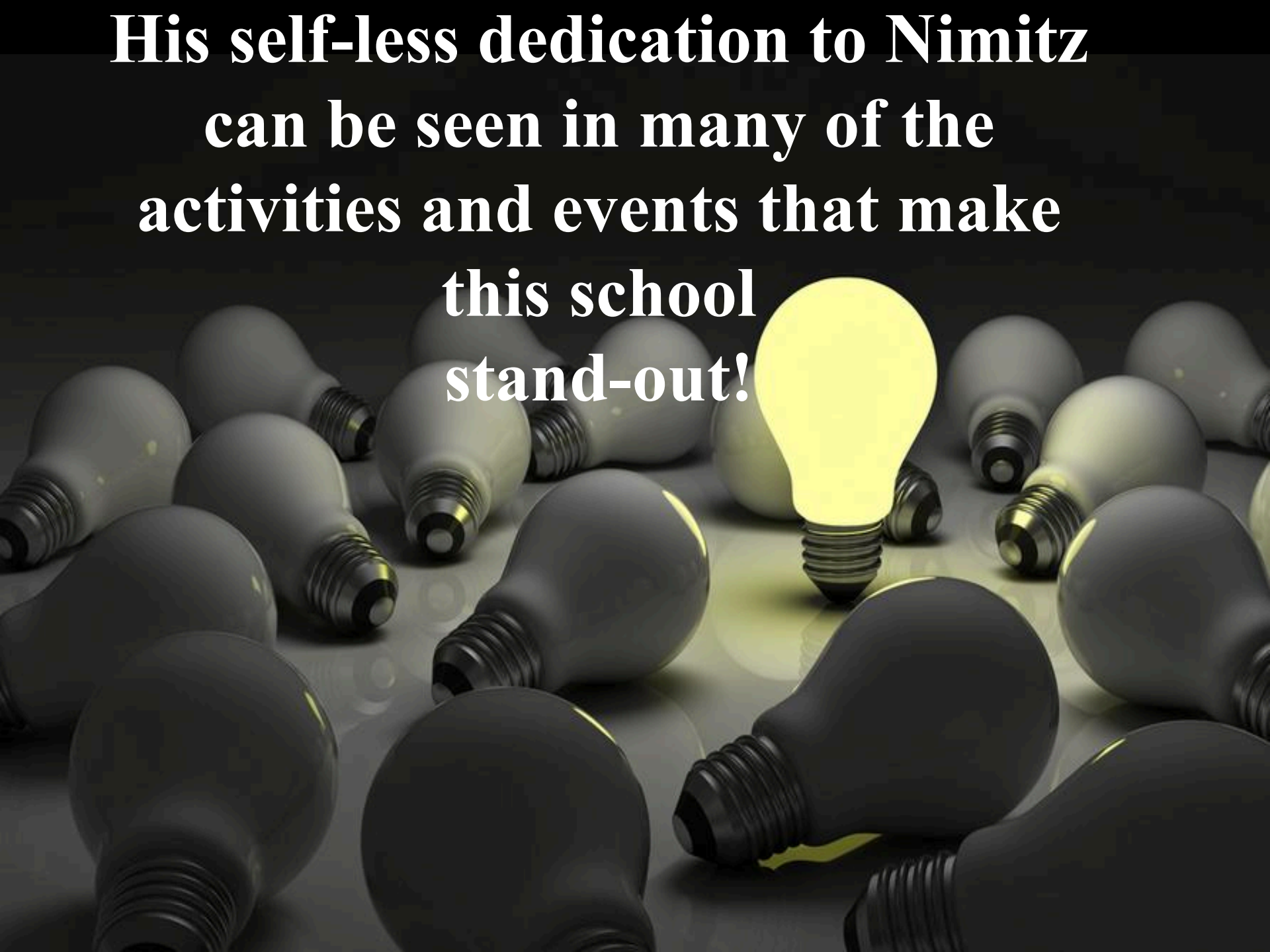
Nicole Marquez

Art Teacher

She faces all challenges with a well-known smile…

Maureen Esparza
Counselor




His self-less dedication to Nimitz can be seen in many of the activities and events that make this school stand-out!

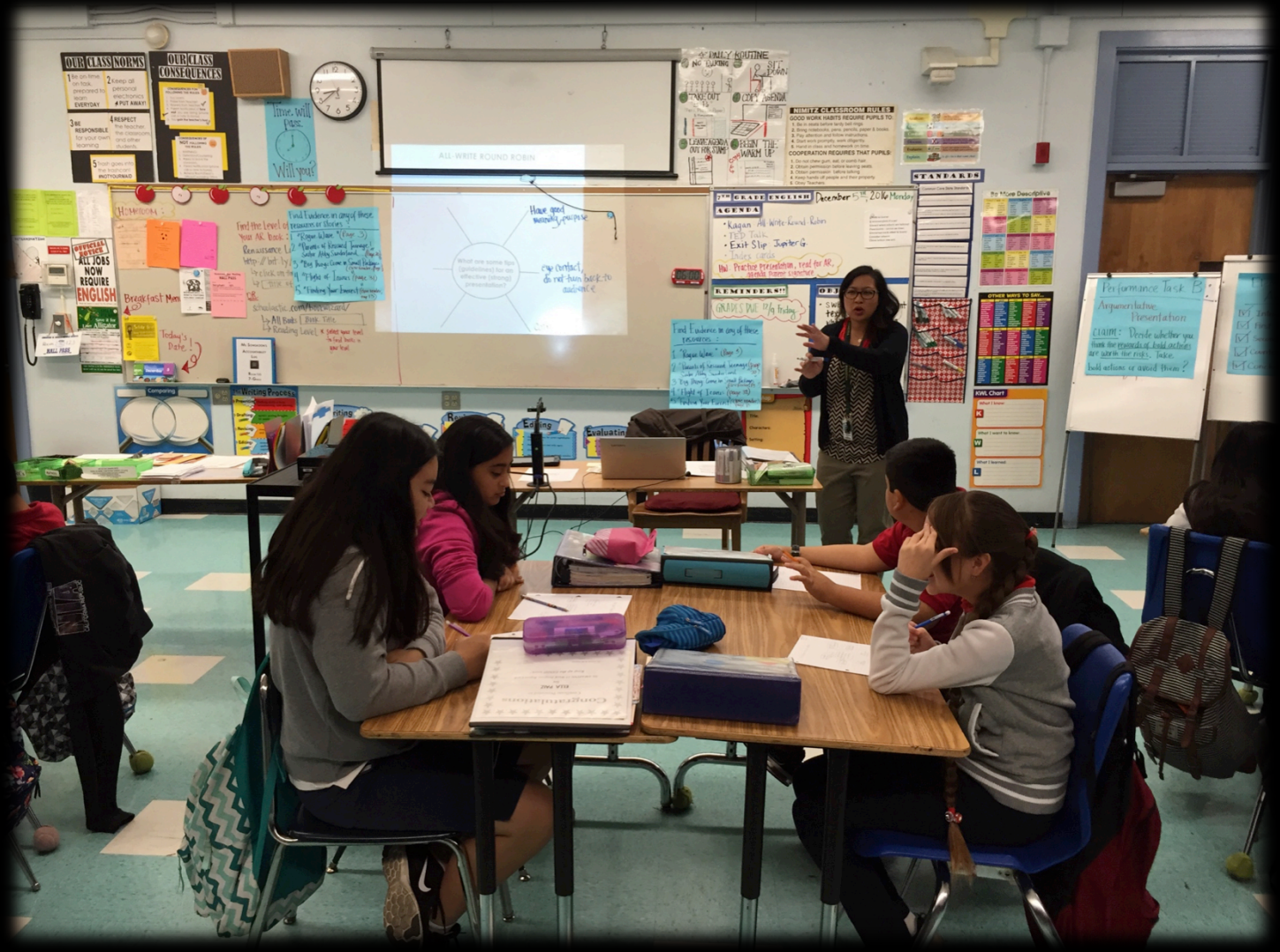
Juan Perez
Magnet
Coordinator



She works hard to plan and prepare rigorous instruction for her students…

Thea-Joy Songkoon

ELA Teacher



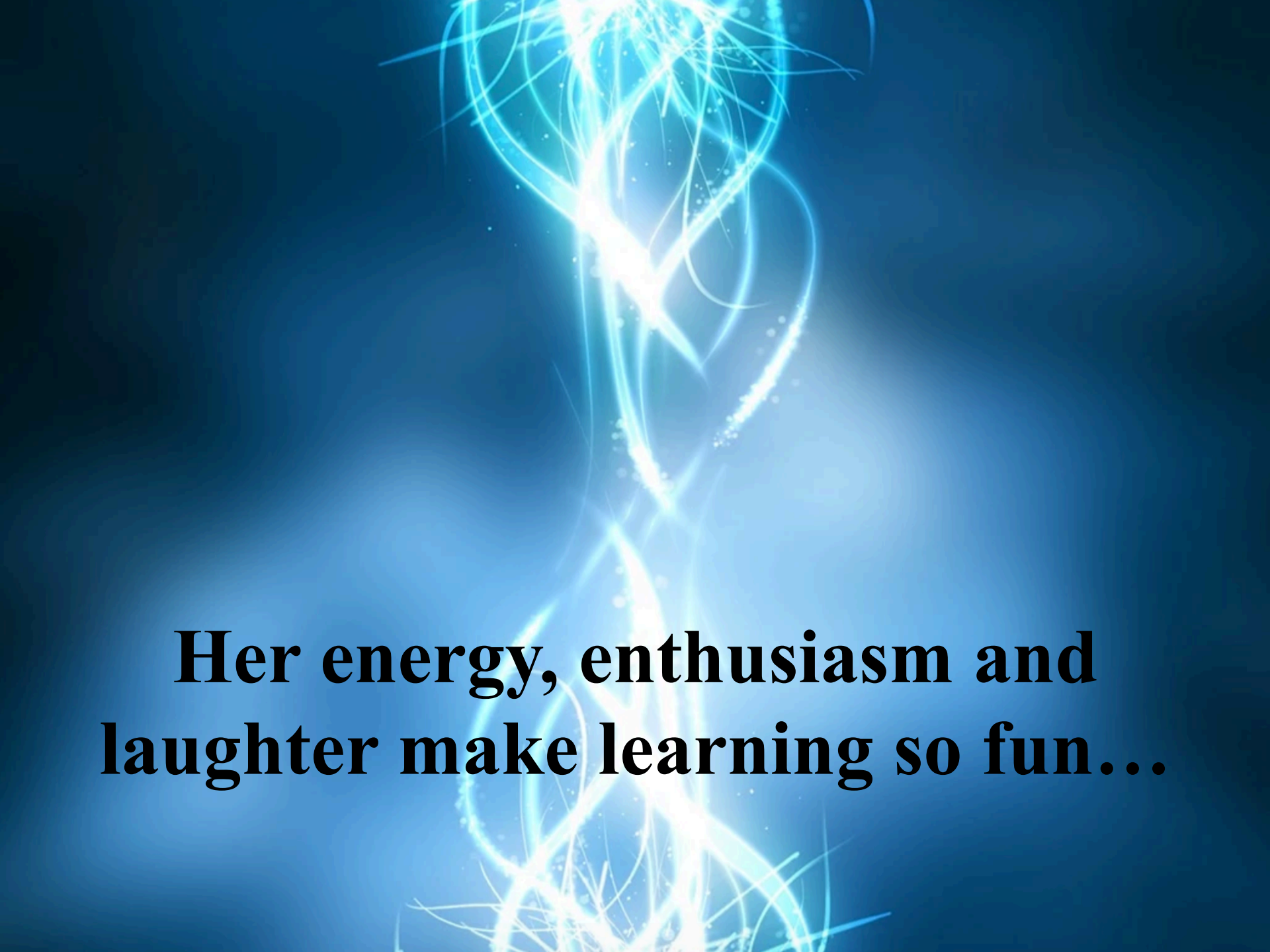
She has an enduring patience and cares deeply for the kids…



Elizabeth Avila

History Teacher




Her energy, enthusiasm and
laughter make learning so fun…

Veronica Castellanos

Math and Science Teacher



She promotes a college-going culture to her 6th grade students…



Alma Diaz
Math and Science Teacher



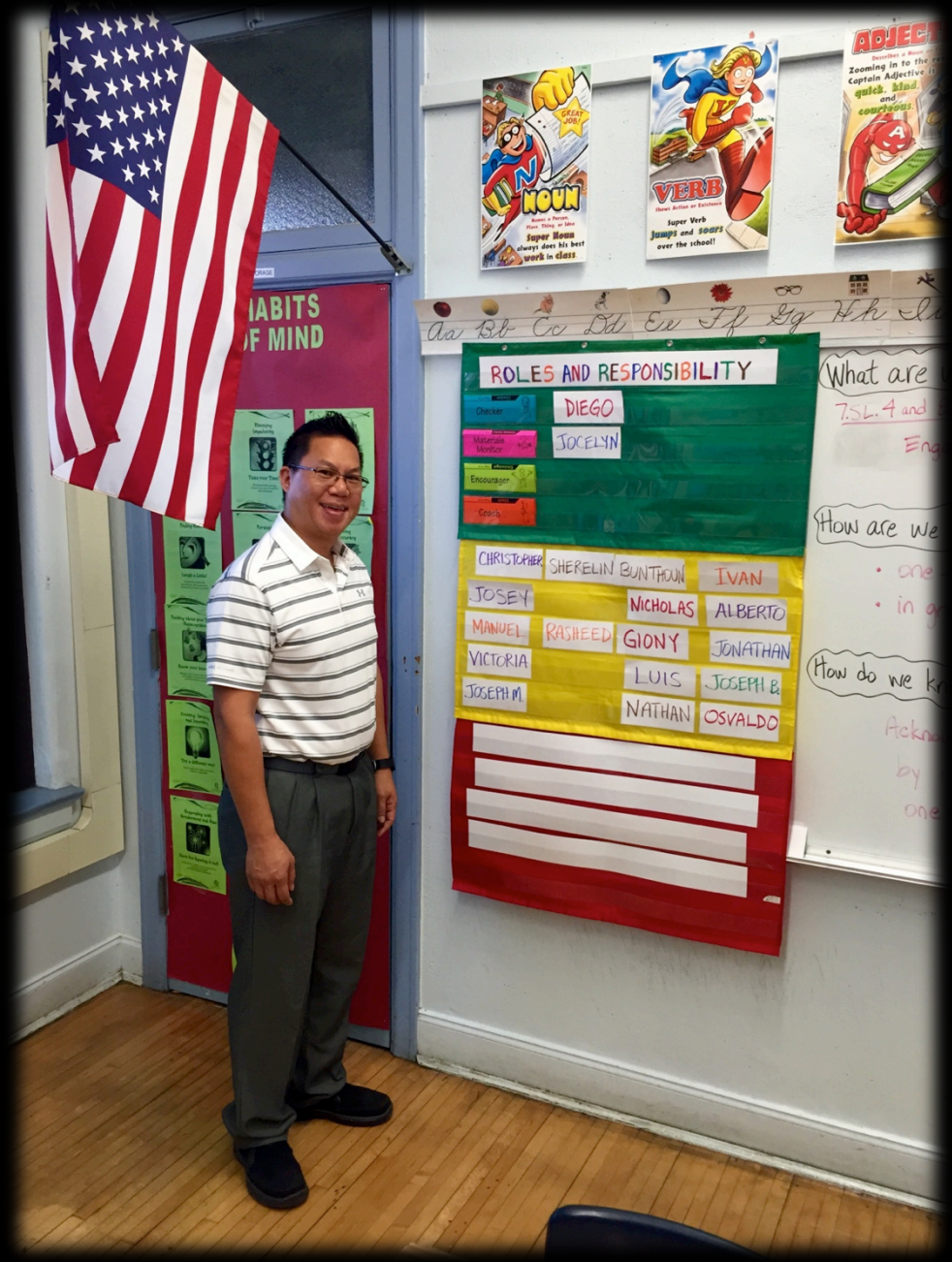
Her ability to understand the unique needs of each student make her an incredible educator…



Ana Duenas
Special Education Teacher




He builds up
even the most
challenging
student…

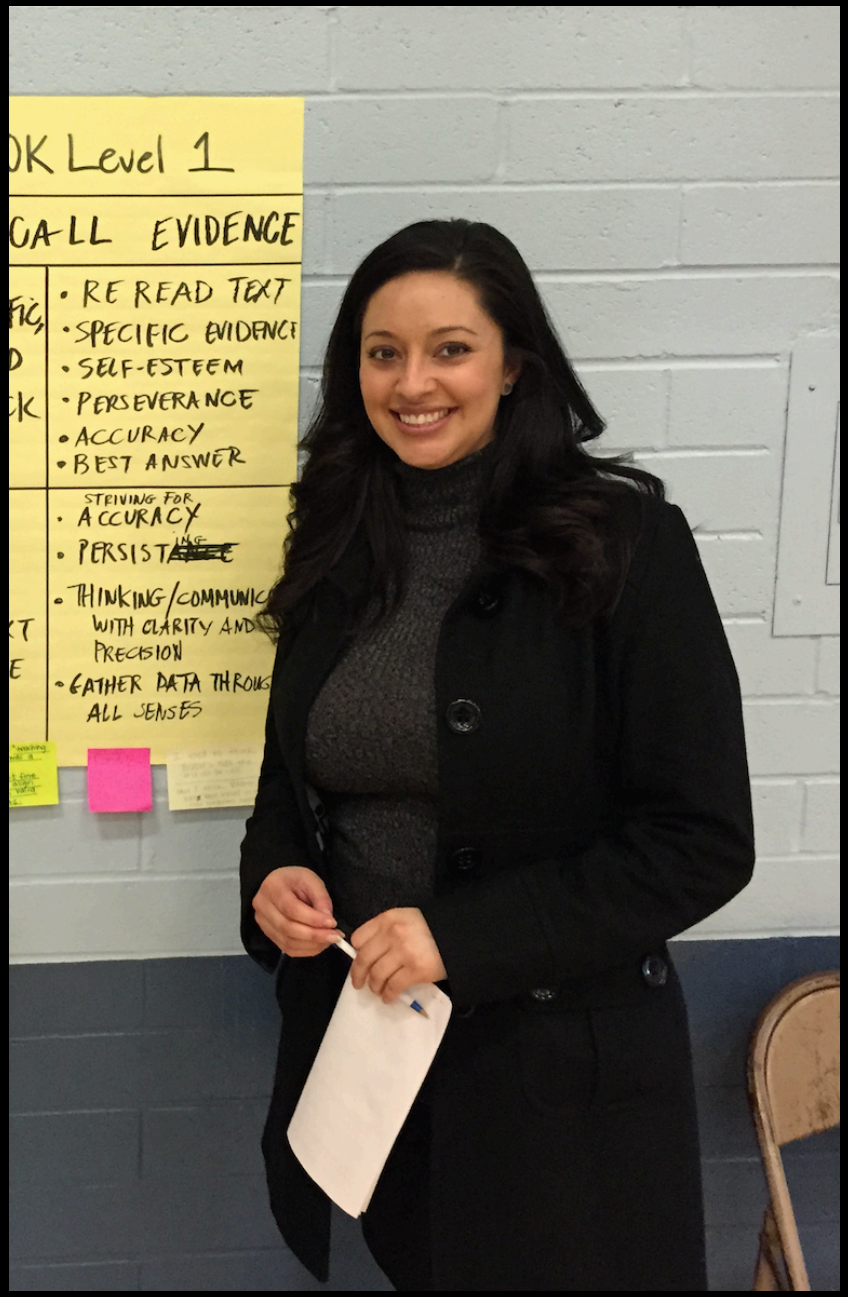


Winson Gin
Special Education Teacher


In her first year of teaching, she created a positive learning environment…

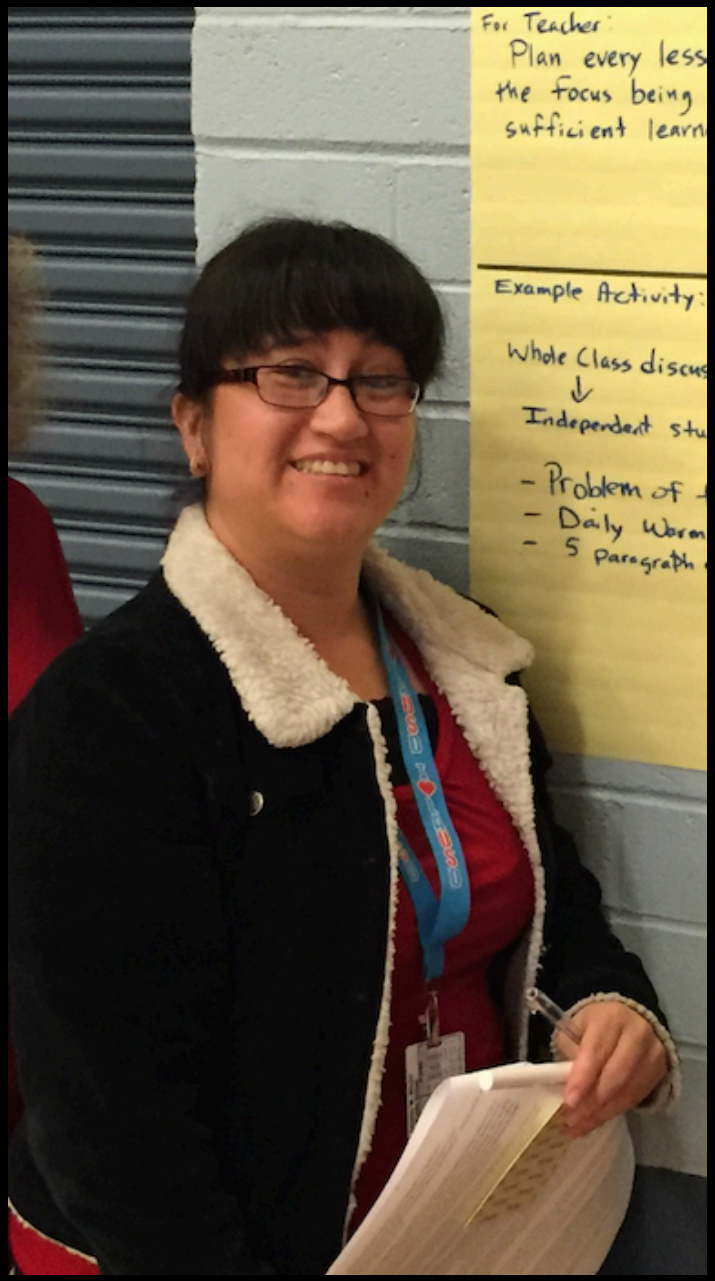
Yvonne Ramirez

Special Education Teacher





She applies the new things she learns, modeling a growth mindset…



Ingrid Vega
Math Teacher



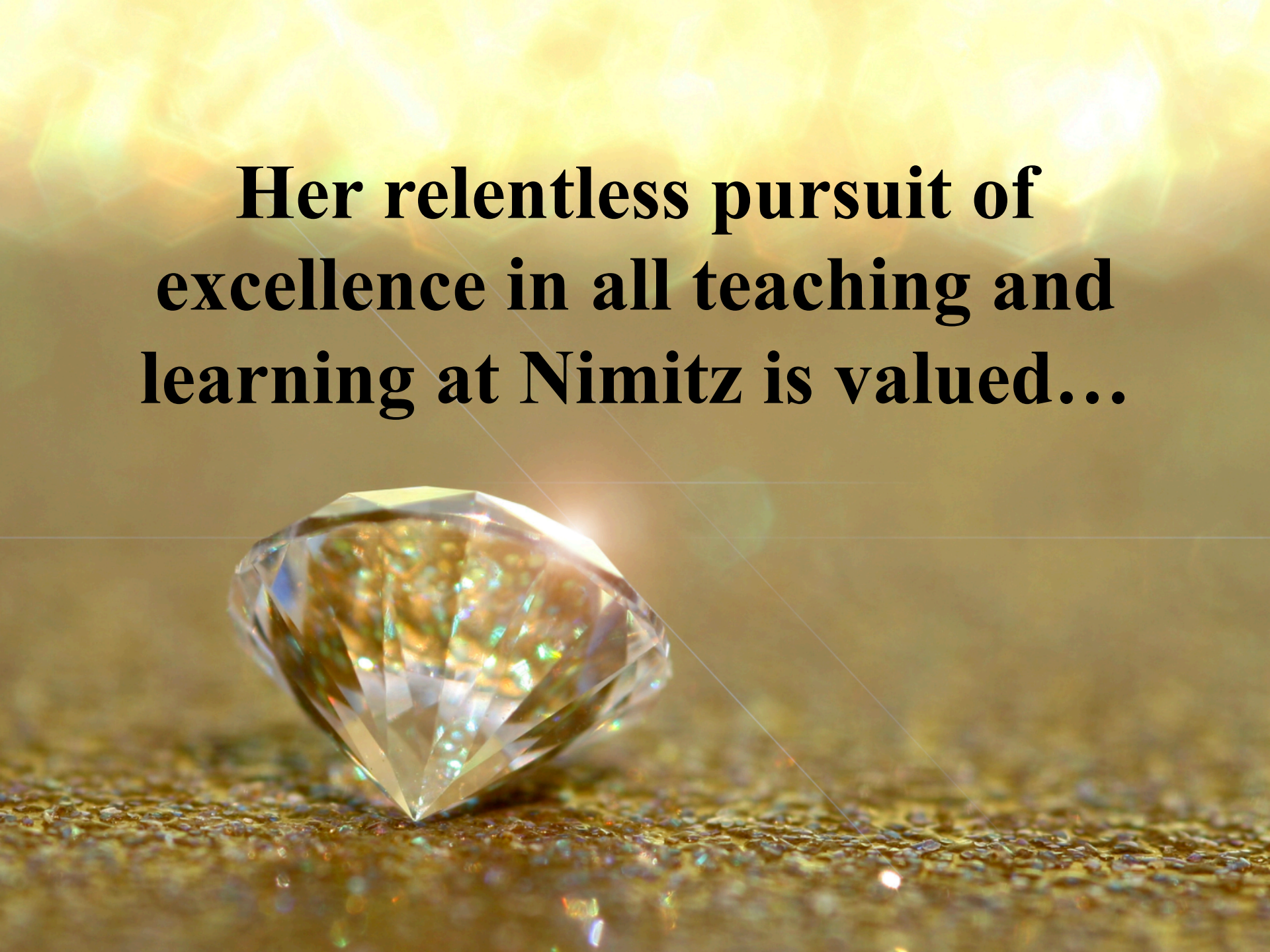
She brings others in to find solutions for our students…



Anna Roesner

Counselor

Her relentless pursuit of excellence in all teaching and learning at Nimitz is valued…





Cecilia Diaz

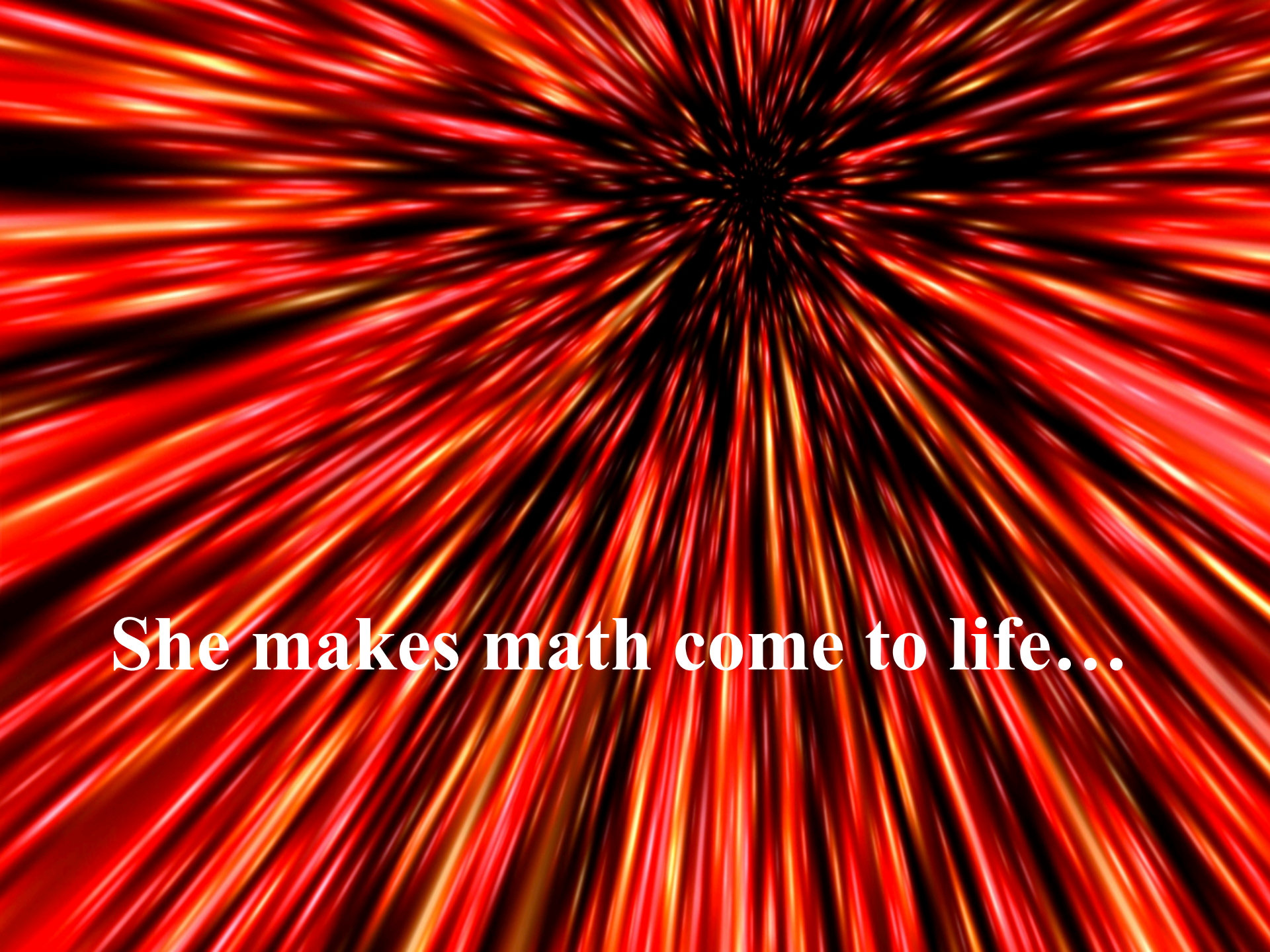
Instructional Coach

His empathy with his students is exemplary…



Jesus Nava
ELA Teacher




She makes math come to life…



Angelica Ramirez (Salazar)

Math Teacher

He encourages his students to reflect about their future and teaches them that they too can be leaders for their community…



Orlando Ramirez

History Teacher


Her teaching puts students
at the center of learning…

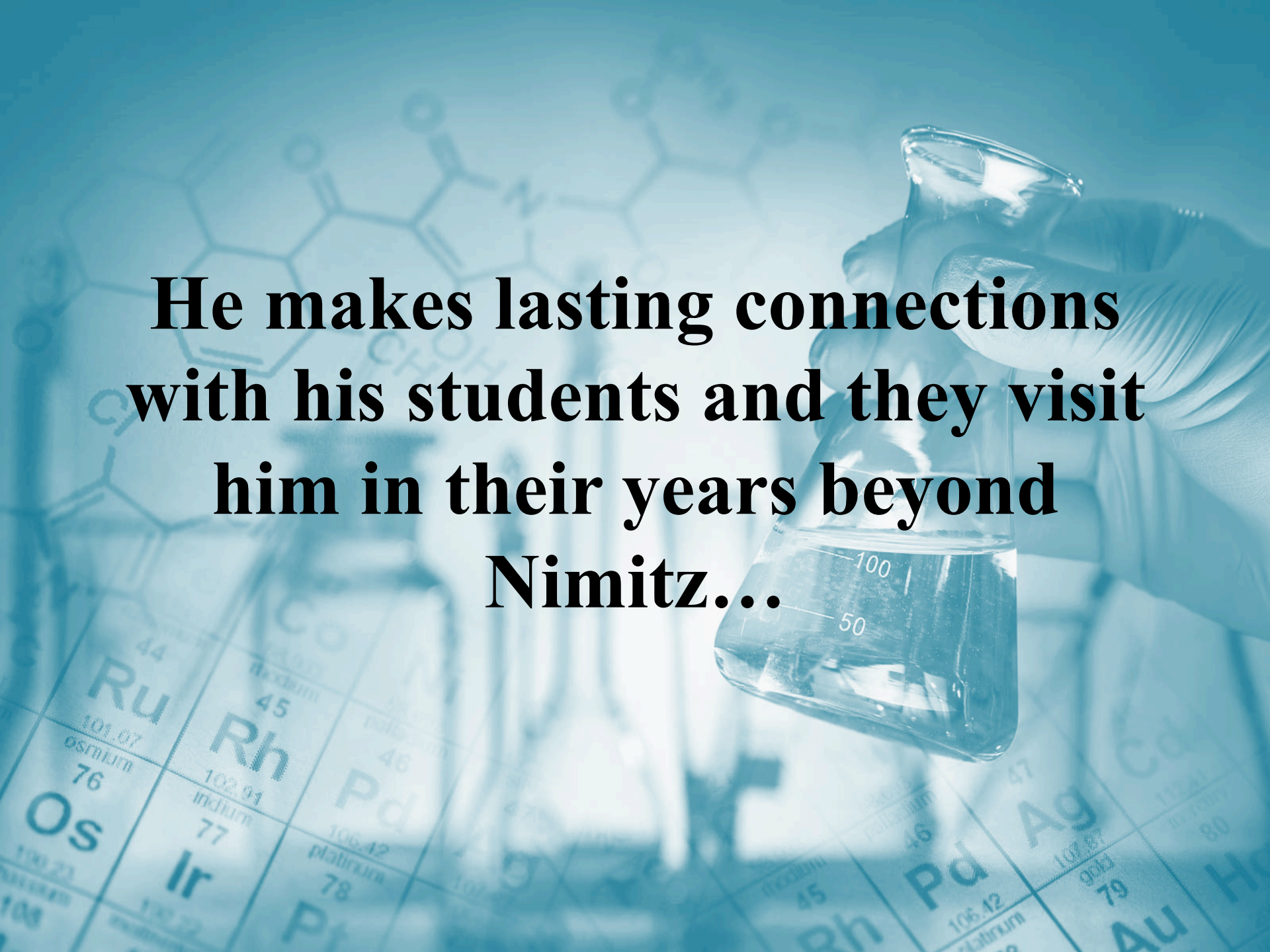


Erika Nava
Math
Teacher

She offers a supportive, safe environment for her students…

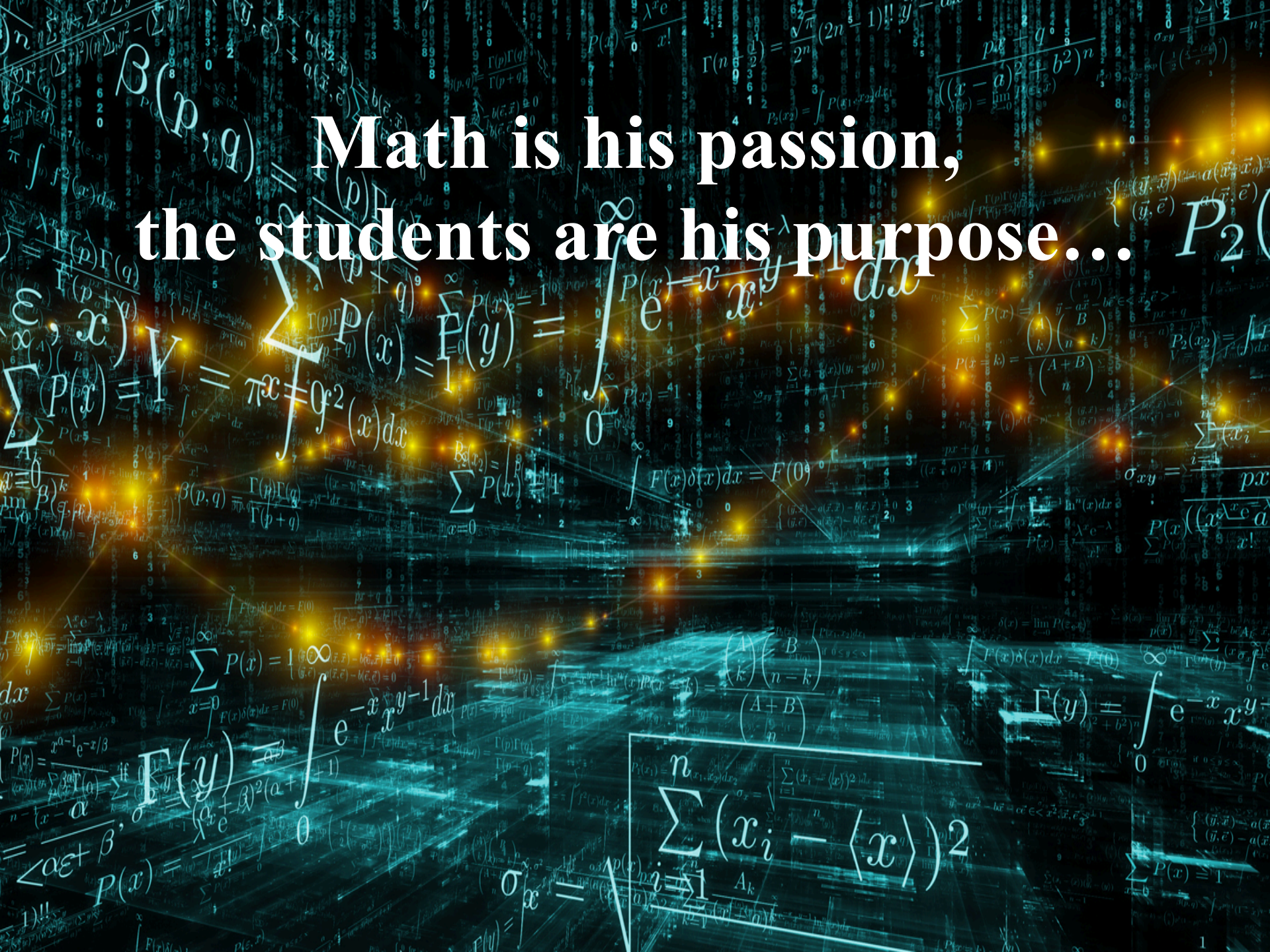
Freda Fitts
Special
Education
Teacher



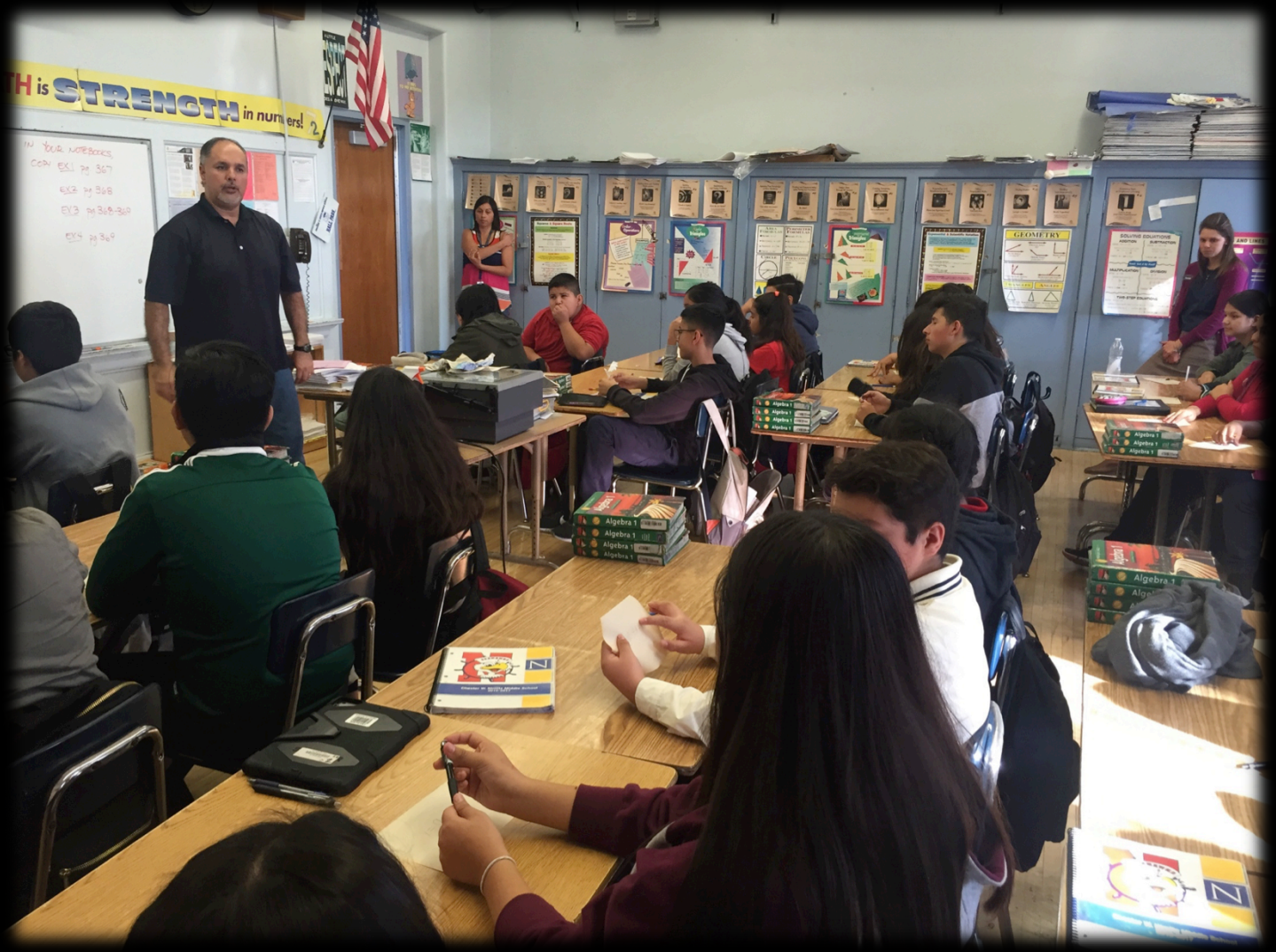

He makes lasting connections with his students and they visit him in their years beyond Nimitz…

Gary Simpson
Science
Teacher




Math is his passion,
the students are his purpose…

Jose Saenz
Math Teacher




Her resiliency and attention to detail make her a superstar…

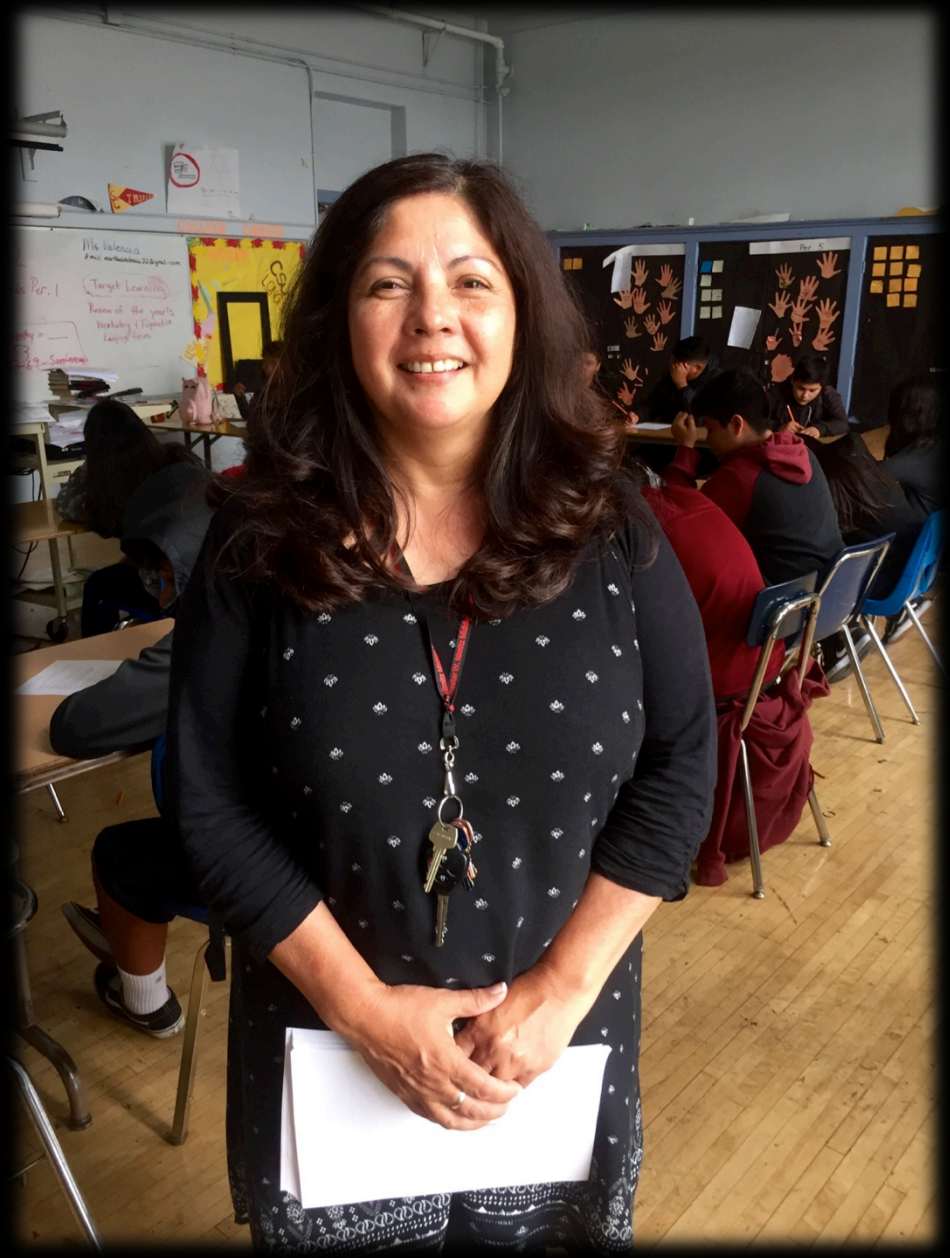
Marissa Pineda

Math Teacher, AVID Coordinator



She knows the important role of parent involvement in a successful school…





Martha
Valencia
ELA Teacher

A great middle school teacher, she's ready for new challenges…



Melissa Turriaga
ELA Teacher



Her students trust her to keep them safe and successful…



Grisel Gordillo
ELA and History Teacher



From East LA, she represents her community as a talented educator…





Sandra Leon
ELA and History Teacher

He has taught science for 27 years and impacted thousands of students…

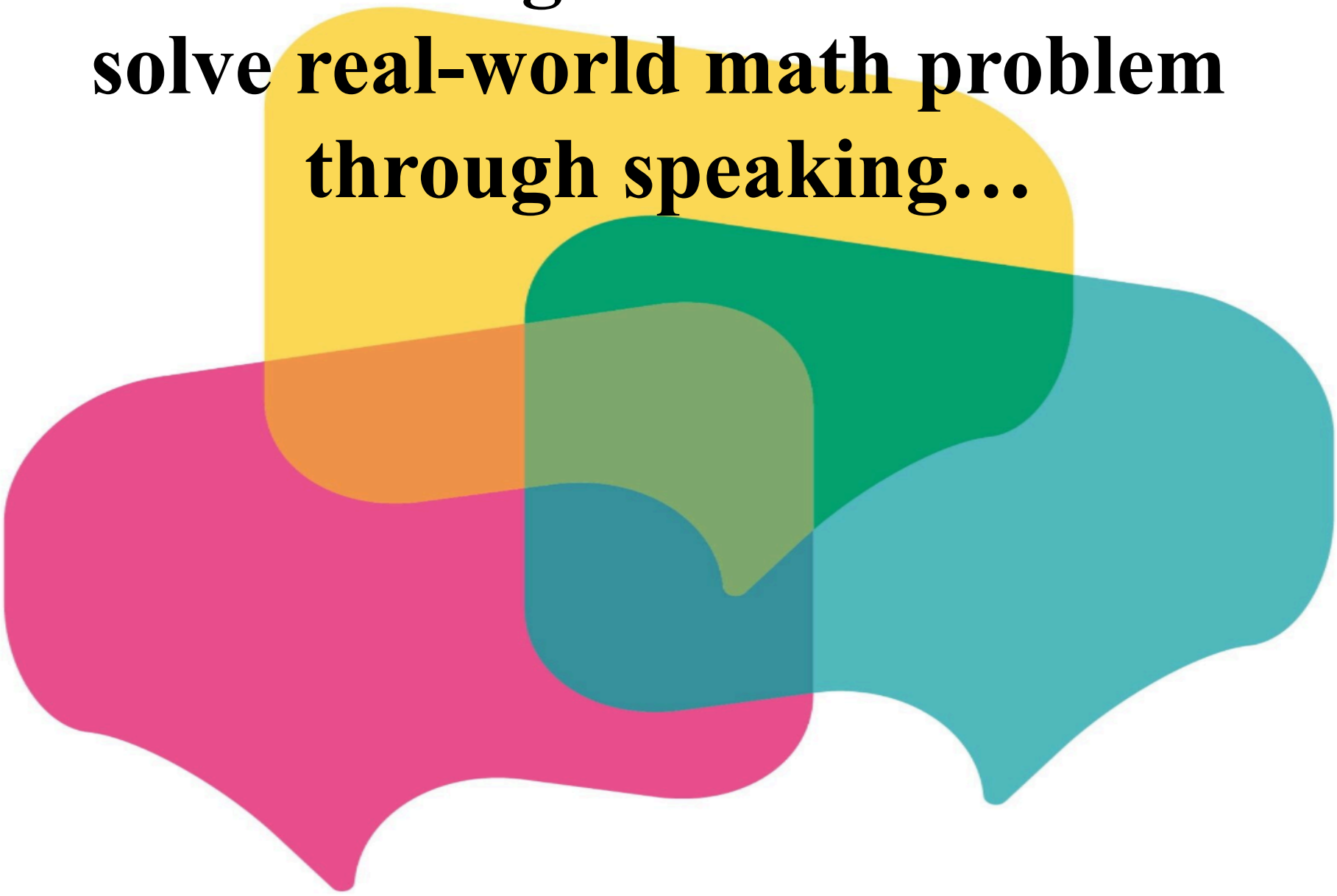


Fernando Ocampo

Science Teacher



She challenged her students to solve real-world math problem through speaking…



Susana Pena
Math Teacher




He empowered his students to write, direct, produce and star in Of Mice and Men…



Erik Peterson

ELA Teacher

A dynamic duo for teaching and learning, they make everything fun!

Cristina Suro

ELA and History Teacher



Veronica Martinez

Math and Science Teacher

Always proud of his students,
now he is a proud papa!

Eric Cimarusti

Special Education Teacher



She uses 21st Century skills in her classroom to help students realize their potential…

Maria Figueroa
History Teacher



They never give up when it comes to their students…

Maria Sanchez
Counselor

Saira Paiz
Counselor




They call him Superman…

Carlos Figueroa

Dean of Students



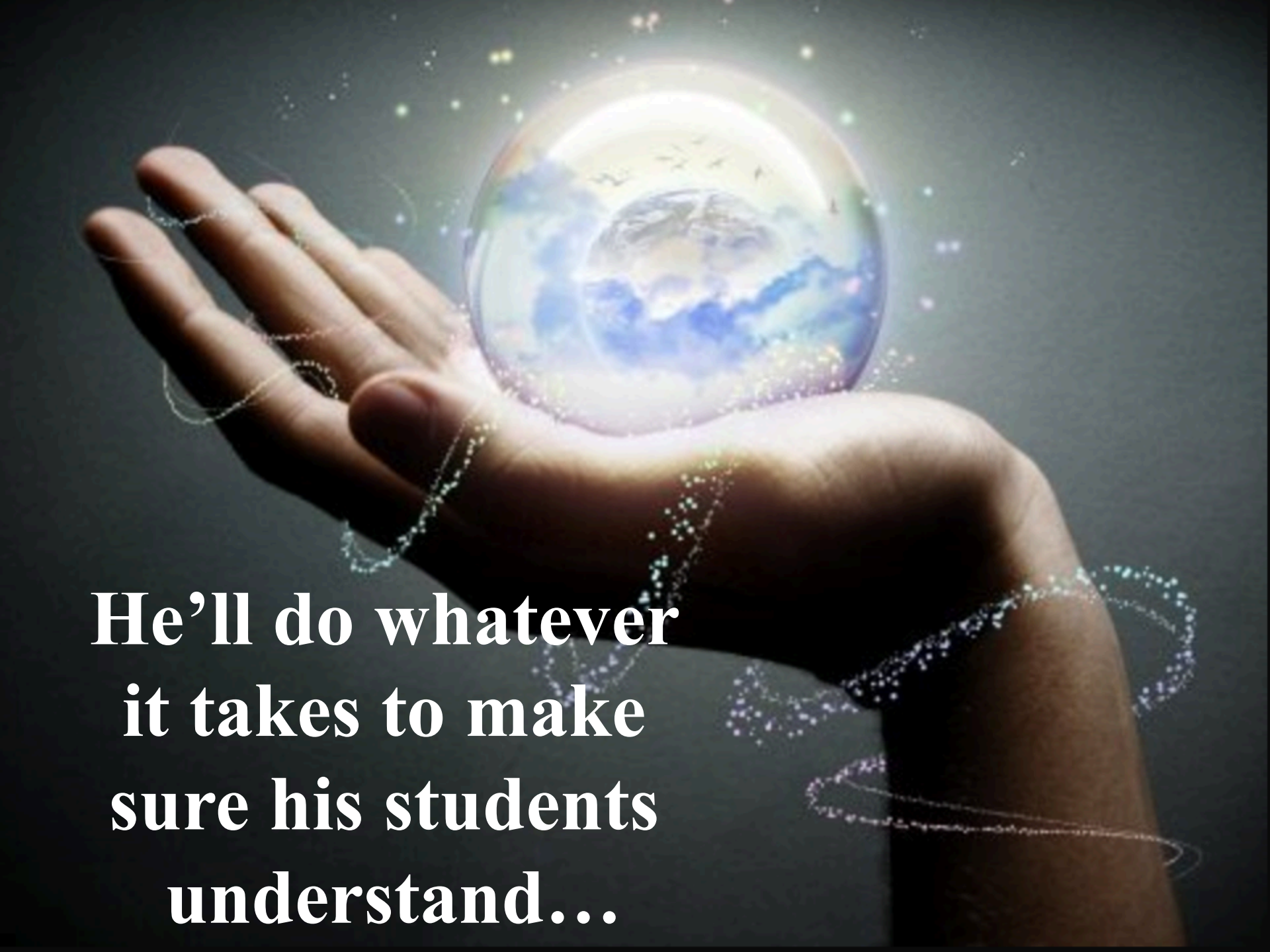
She creates leaders…



Carmen Ruiz Dominguez

Math, Science and Leadership Teacher/ Advisor

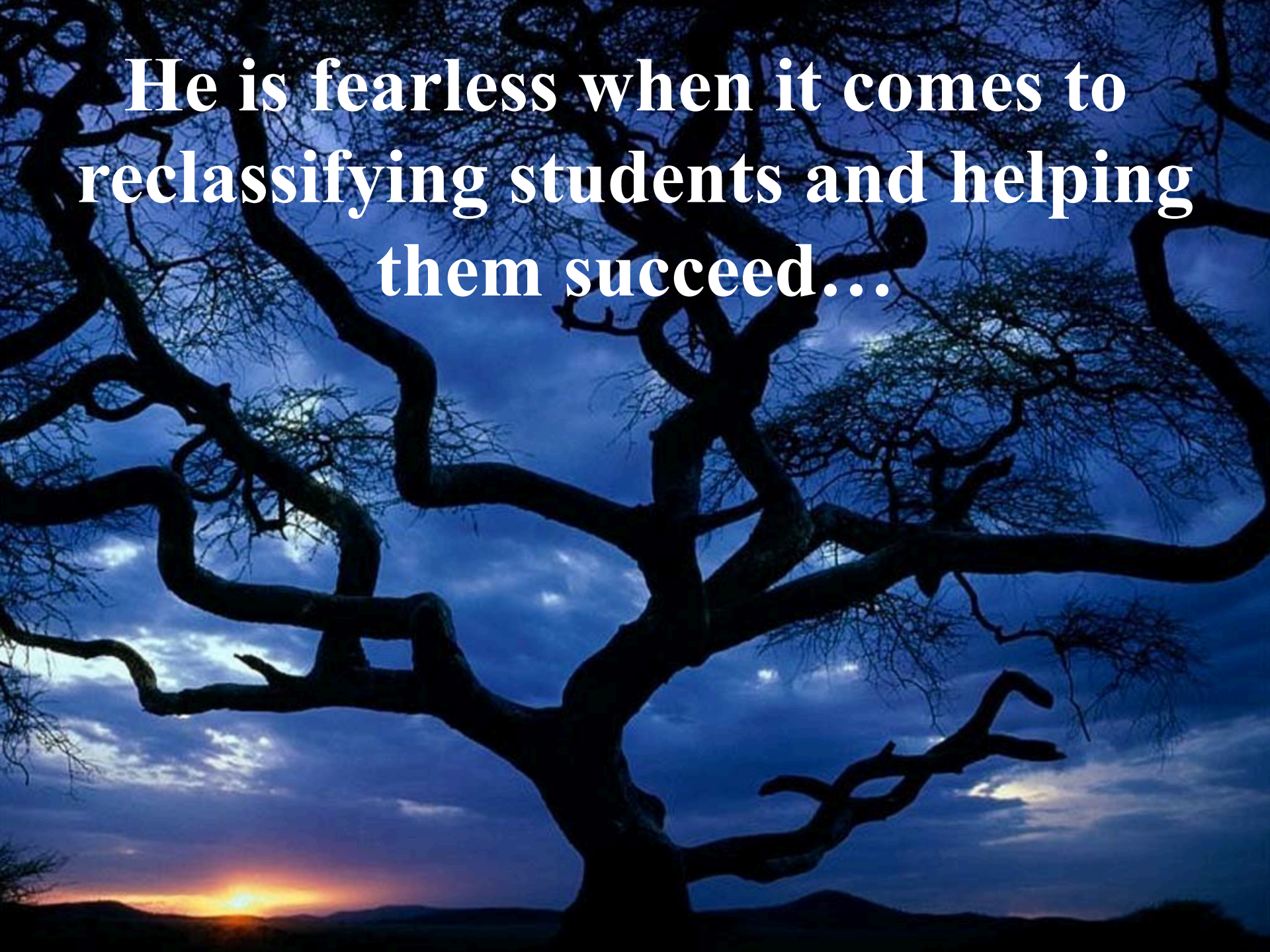



He'll do whatever
it takes to make
sure his students
understand…



Pedro Murillo

Special Education Teacher


He is fearless when it comes to reclassifying students and helping them succeed…

Julio Pulido
ELA & History
Teacher




Her positive attitude
and strength
empower her students
and those around
her…



Ana Valencia

ELA & History Teacher

Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things