

Nikki Akins
Star Teacher

I am pleased and honored to be nominated as this year's Star Student for East Gaston. I was given the opportunity to select a teacher who impacted my high school experience and without a doubt, Mrs. Akins was my nominee for Star Teacher.

I was only able to have Mrs. Akins in Pre-Calculus for a semester. However, her overall impact is utterly irreplaceable. Every day, Mrs. Akins wanted to make Pre-Cal enjoyable, even on days with lectures or days when it felt like she was giving a million examples. Maybe I was just overreacting at the time, in spite of dreading those moments to the utmost.

Her positive outlook in class motivated me to change my perspective on the situation and be able to focus on the brighter aspects of Pre-Cal. She treated me as if I was her own son and pushed all her students to exceed our expectations each day.

The words "I can't" couldn't be used by any student in her class; she would instantly respond back "you can" to anyone who dares to say those words. When a teacher believes in her students and gives them hope, then it only motivates them to work harder to prove her belief right, well at least in my mind. Her door is forever open to any student who needs advice, assistance on work, or even an everyday "Hey, I miss you."

I am grateful to have had a phenomenal teacher to help me learn and give me wisdom to further succeed beyond life in high school. Now, I present to you my Pre-Cal teacher, my second mom, and my star advocate, Mrs. Nikki Akins.

Aaron Legrand
East Gaston High School
Star Student 2019



Gaston County Schools