

Karmen Teague **Star Teacher**

When I met Mrs. Teague the first day of AP Prep English, I was like many other sophomores: excited to no longer be a freshman, yet still having no idea who I was, who I wanted to be, and certainly not how I would get there. As my peers and I prepared for the semester, everyone was talking about how hard this class was going to be and how much work we were going to have as compared to other classes we had taken, so going to class on that first day was daunting to say the least.

As soon as we walked in, Mrs. Teague passed out our summer assignments we had turned in the first day of the previous semester and everyone was anxious to see their grade. Mrs. Teague handed them all back and then she told us to look at the grade we should receive, and then she told us that we get to fix our mistakes and that she was going to teach us how to complete the assignment the right way. I immediately knew that Mrs. Teague was going to be someone I could learn from. She showed us how to embrace the mistakes we made, but know we can learn from them and do better the next time.

As I got to know Mrs. Teague throughout the rest of high school, she continued to be a support person for me both academically and in life in general. Without her, I never would have learned how to write a decent essay, but more importantly how to embrace who I was meant to be as a person. Mrs. Teague was valedictorian of her high school, and she once told me that although that was a serious accomplishment in her life, she knows that most people don't remember things like that, but instead remember the relationships you made with them.

Because of Mrs. Teague, I have come to value relationships over intellect as I believe the way we treat others defines who we truly are. Mrs. Teague is an example of someone who embodies the personal qualities I would like to emulate in my life, and she has been one of the most influential teachers and women in my life.

Gracie Smith
South Point High School
Star Student 2019



Gaston County Schools