

Hannah Waters

Star Teacher

Mrs. Waters was one of the first teachers that I met when I entered high school as a scared little freshman just trying to walk through the halls without aggravating the seniors. I can't honestly remember that much about freshman year, and I'm not too mad about that, but I do remember the familiar smile of Mrs. Waters.

Not only did I have two classes with her, but she inspired my love for yearbook and the art of photography.

Although I only had one yearbook class with her, I knew from the start of that class that I would want people to remember me as someone who was just like Mrs. Waters when I left East Gaston. With the way she carries herself, as well as her compassion for not only her job, but for her students as well. Not only am I appreciative of this award, but I am also grateful because I get to broadcast what an amazing teacher I have had the pleasure of learning from. I got to experience the fun, laid-back atmosphere of a yearbook class with Mrs. Waters, but also the serious classroom where AP Government took place my junior year. She got to see the stressed, overworked, junior that had little to no free time. But one thing I would make time for was those little sidebar conversations every day before lectures about the three branches of government.

To this day, I still make time to stop and chat about the future and reminisce on the olden days when life was easy. Between the "designated mask break," even when the mask mandate was lifted, and the "always open" door policy, Mrs. Waters has not only impacted my four years in high school, but has also inspired me to become a better version of myself, which I hope will make her proud.

Ryleigh Estby
East Gaston High School
Star Student 2023

