



CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS MONTH'S NATIONAL WINNER



IVY TECH
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



MATTHEW SERGE
NATIONAL WINNER
SWANSON TRADITIONAL
SCHOOL, SOUTH BEND

Question: What grade and subject do you teach?

Answer: Third grade. Third grade, from start to finish, when I started until now.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: This will be my seventh year.

Q: Who or what has been your inspiration as a teacher and why?

A: Kathy Washington and the one that really sticks out right now is Jeff Hardman. He's been teaching for 10 years. We kind of really kind of got in sync. He has a lot of passion and energy, which is pretty awesome. And I feel he's very similar to me. We have a lot of good relationships with our kids. We can goof around but still get that structure and function and just excel.

Q: What does it mean to you to be named an "Amazing Teacher of the Month"?

A: It's an insanely great honor, but I think a lot of it goes with the people that I've worked with and the people around me. I have a very, very supportive wife, overly supportive, especially when I act like a kid myself most of the time. I coach high school hockey. With everything going on, it is truly is a great honor, and it shows that the people that have helped me along the way have done a good job.

Q: Is there anything that you would like to add or stress as a key takeaway about being named an "Amazing Teacher of the Month"?

A: I think it's a very unique profession, the people who are in it, I have seen some phenomenal, amazing teachers and I've learned from them. I think the best thing about teaching is you can learn something from absolutely anybody. If teachers are willing to share and you're willing to collaborate and you get in a great school like the one I'm at, I feel like you can just go through the roof.

Question & Answers: Danielle Pacey

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