

2006 HONOREE

Felicity Amond

McKinley Middle Academic Magnet School, Baton Rouge, LA
Middle School Math Education • 7th Grade



Years Teaching: 6

Average Class Size: 31

Classes Taught Per Day: 3

School's % of ESL Students: 3%

School Type: Public, Inner City

Type of Class: Self-contained

“I am aware that, in general, students are a product of society. Today’s popular media – media often presented at an ultra-fast and stimulating pace – shapes students’ interests and attention span. I often have to compete with the realities that exist in my students’ daily lives such as: street life, violence, abuse, video games, rap music, television, etc. As a result, I challenge myself to think of innovative and unique ideas that will engage my students and help them become excited about learning. In addition to keeping their attention, these ideas encourage peer interaction and group participation. My students thrive on change and with my lessons, I provide multiple ways of exploring and learning new content. I challenge my students to perform their best and to challenge themselves. Yes, I have to follow state-mandated standards and benchmarks; however, I find it very easy to remain a creative teacher while still following the curriculum and accountability guidelines. All of these entities tell me what to teach, when to teach it, but they do not tell me how to teach it!”

“I know I am challenging my students to think about math outside of the classroom when they bring me Wal-Mart receipts and ask me about the taxes. This is a great teachable moment where I can incorporate economics into the math class and talk about the different commodities



on which we are taxed different amounts. Or when a student brings in a container of something and tells me they chose this container because it had more volume than the other container, indicating they understood they got more food for their money – how exciting is that?”

“Math is usually a subject that most teachers would not want to teach, however, Ms. Amond is just the opposite. She gravitates to anything mathematical that would allow her students to learn and progress. As an administrator, the hope would be that all teachers would possess the abilities that Ms. Amond possesses. She compliments her students for the smallest achievements and makes big celebrations for the great ones. However, no success is too small and she always finds ways to help the lowest achievers succeed.”

— *Joyce G. Graham, principal,
McKinley Middle Academic
Magnet School*

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:

Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers (2005) • Teacher of the Year - McKinley Middle Academic Magnet (2004-05) • AT&T Fellow Award (2004) • Great Ideas Committee Award - Academic Distinction Fund (ADF) (2002-03) • Spotlit for Exemplary Teaching (2002) • East Baton Rouge Parish Essay Contest - Exchange Club of Baton Rouge (2000-01)