

2013 Educator of the Year

Jerry Copeland

This year's recipient has been employed by the Athena Weston School District since 2008.

Born and raised in Milton-Freewater, our recipient has served in many educational leadership roles throughout his career.

He started out as a Business Teacher at Arlington High School, and then moved on to Assistant Principal at Harrisburg Union High School. He then went on to serve as Assistant Principal at Pendleton High School followed by serving as Principal at Washington Elementary School. He later served as Director of Human Resources & Instruction for the Pendleton School District as well as Assistant Superintendent for a year for Pendleton.

Our honoree also served as the President of the Oregon Elementary School Principal Association and as the Eastern Regional Representative for the Oregon School Personnel Association.

In both roles, our educator of the year worked diligently to represent his region and to provide professional development for local members.

He has also received the Distinguished Principal Award and the Doug Flatt Memorial Award for Outstanding Leadership in Education.

This year's recipient has also been honored to teach Teacher Effectiveness and Evaluation courses for the administrative program through Lewis and Clark College. Using the most current methods and theories, he guides aspiring administrators through the complexities of improving teacher effectiveness through effective leadership.

On a personal note a dear friend shared that this year's Educator of the Year is a great friend to many. He is the kind of person you want to spend time with when things are going well, as well as when times are difficult. He is known to enjoy some of the finer things in life: a campfire on the Oregon coast with family; quality fishing time with his dad; golfing with old and new friends; jamming with local musicians and attending local music festivals around the region. This year's Educator of the Year is a devoted husband to Rosalee and father to daughter Corbi and son Jordan.