

Jennifer Schnell – Distinguished Service Award

Jennifer has been an IAHPERD member for 19 years. She arrived at Franklin Middle School in Cedar Rapids in 1998 and has remained teaching physical education there ever since. Along the way she has touched many lives not only through her teaching but through her coaching and also serving as a highly sought after cooperating teacher to numerous student teachers. She sets the bar high with her expectations of the future professionals she mentors and she always makes sure to encourage them to join our association, get involved, and attend convention.

Her professional contributions and service to our association have included:

Treasurer, Grant Committee member, Co-Executive Director, Ad Hoc Committee for IAHPERD's restructuring process, Past – President, President, President, Physical Education and Sport Chair, Grant Chair, Membership Chair and she has been a Presenter at 3 state conventions.

She represented our association as the state Middle School PE Teacher of the Year award winner and went on to claim Central District award honors that year as well.

If you have ever attended a meeting, served on the board or on a committee with Jen, you know that she is a "rule follower". She knows the Operating Code of this organization better than just about any other member and she makes sure that we all do things "by the book". She is not afraid to hold people accountable or to say no in tough situations or when tough decisions need to be made. While this may make you smile, laugh, sigh, or roll your eyes....no one can deny that every decision she has made in her many roles within our organization have been made with the best interest for our organization at the very forefront. She acts with the utmost integrity and deserves our respect for her service, countless hours, and her willingness to protect our organization to make it stronger for all of us now and into the future.