



BENNET ACADEMY'S 2017 – 2018 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

LINDA BROWNING

Linda is a true professional. She takes her work very seriously and dedicates not only the work week, but her weekends to her career. Close to 30 years in and she still shows up to work most mornings between 6:15-6:30 am to organize work for students, gather information for her colleagues and to set up her room for the day. She is humble, not one to brag and would never belittle or demean a person based on their lack of experience. I have seen first hand how kind and supportive she can be. When a music colleague has had a very difficult day, she will tell them to take some time to relax and not to worry and then help to direct the class herself. She is willing to debrief with you at any time, support you when students are being difficult and offer advice. She has a great sense of humor as well and although she takes her work very seriously, she understands the bigger picture and makes every class, every rehearsal, every PLC, every debrief an enjoyable experience. This year, she signed up several students for the Connecticut Music Educator's Association Honor's Orchestra. They have to learn five pieces for the concert. Linda is currently preparing them and will be affording students these invaluable experiences. As far as community work, Linda has her ensembles perform not only for the Bennet Academy Music concerts, but also for PTSA meetings, 5th grade orientation, Veteran's Day Ceremony, Memorial Day Ceremony, the district Town Wide Orchestra Concert, and the Ice Cream Social/ Art's Night. Linda exemplifies creativity within our building by looking at every way possible to promote student and professional growth. Whether she is dealing with scheduling classes and rehearsals for performing ensembles or creating note reading flash cards for her students, she truly is a strong creative force at Bennet Academy.

~ PRINCIPAL JOSEPH CHELLA