

# P

Jen Allen

Buchanan

Mrs. Allen was the teacher who made me want to learn through her caring heart, and she changed the way I viewed school by teaching me to love it. She is an amazing teacher who always wants the best for all students. I am forever be grateful for her loving character. I always look forward to a big hug from her every time I see her.

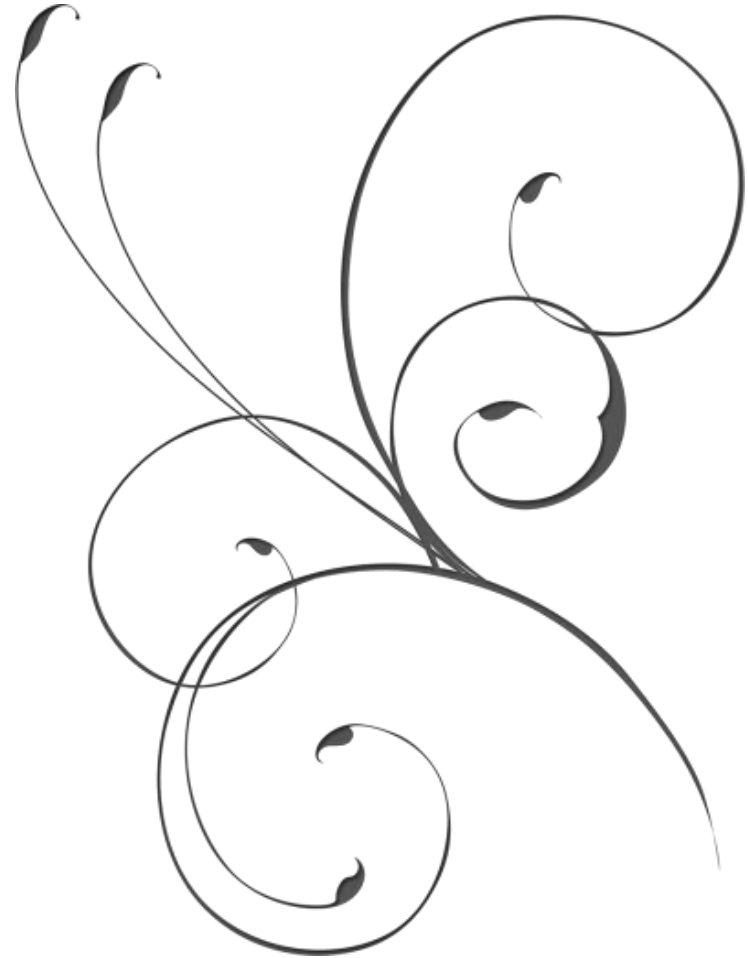


# P

## Mrs. Anderson

Jefferson

My time being a student of Mrs. Anderson from Jefferson was great. She was my first grade teacher. When I moved and had to go to a new school, she was always very kind and welcoming. I remember enjoying her class so much that I never dreaded coming to school. I still have some art projects we did in that class just to remember her by.



# P

## Hope Armstrong

McKinley

The teacher that had the biggest impact on me in middle school was Mrs. Armstrong. This woman has shaped me into the human I am today. From having her in sixth grade to going and volunteering my sophomore and junior year, the love that radiates off her doesn't go unnoticed. I was her student of the year my sixth grade year and will forever remember the feeling I felt as she called my name. Teachers who care about you and your personal life outside of school are the ones who make the biggest difference, thank you Mrs. Armstrong for helping me become the person I am.



**P**

## Tiffany Benham

T.F. Riggs

Tiffany Benham was the teacher that had the biggest impact on me in high school. Mrs. Benham is not only one of the best teachers I have had the honor of knowing but she was also a safe spot to land. A teacher is more than someone who assigns you homework and gives you tests. Mrs. Benham is much more than that, she is compassionate about teaching as well as her students.

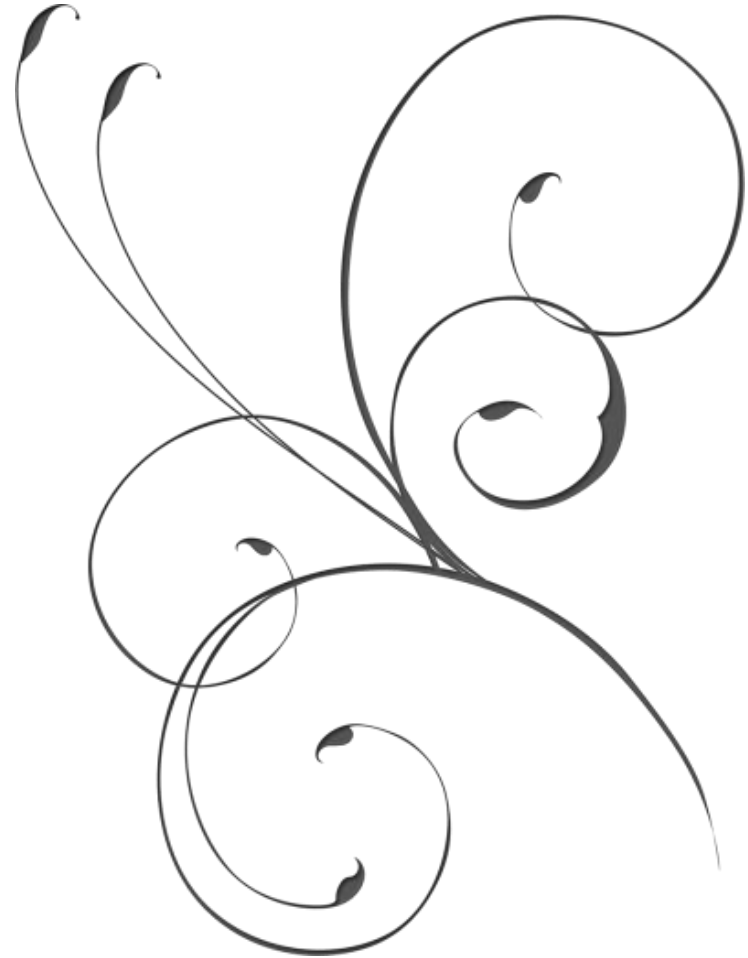


# P

## Kim Bierle

T.F. Riggs

The teacher who has made the biggest impact on my high school career is Ms. Bierle. I took geography and psychology with her and loved her teaching style. She had real conversations with us about all the topics and is one of the most down to earth people I know. I loved her willingness to let us roller skate around the school as a social experiment for psychology. Whenever I see her in the hallway, she always says hi and checks in to see how I'm doing. We worked hard in her class but she always had ways of making the information fun to learn about.



# P

## Charis Blanchette

T.F. Riggs

Charis Blanchette has had the biggest impact on me through all my years in the Pierre School District. She was a very easy-going teacher while always having a point or incentive she was getting at, which I believe helps students learn much easier. Also, she was always there for everyone. She made sure everyone was going down the right path in life and if not, she was always there to talk and help. Most importantly, she gained the trust of many students, making it very easy to learn while enjoying it. Mrs. Blanchette is a great teacher and is someone I will always trust and have faith to help me out in all circumstances.

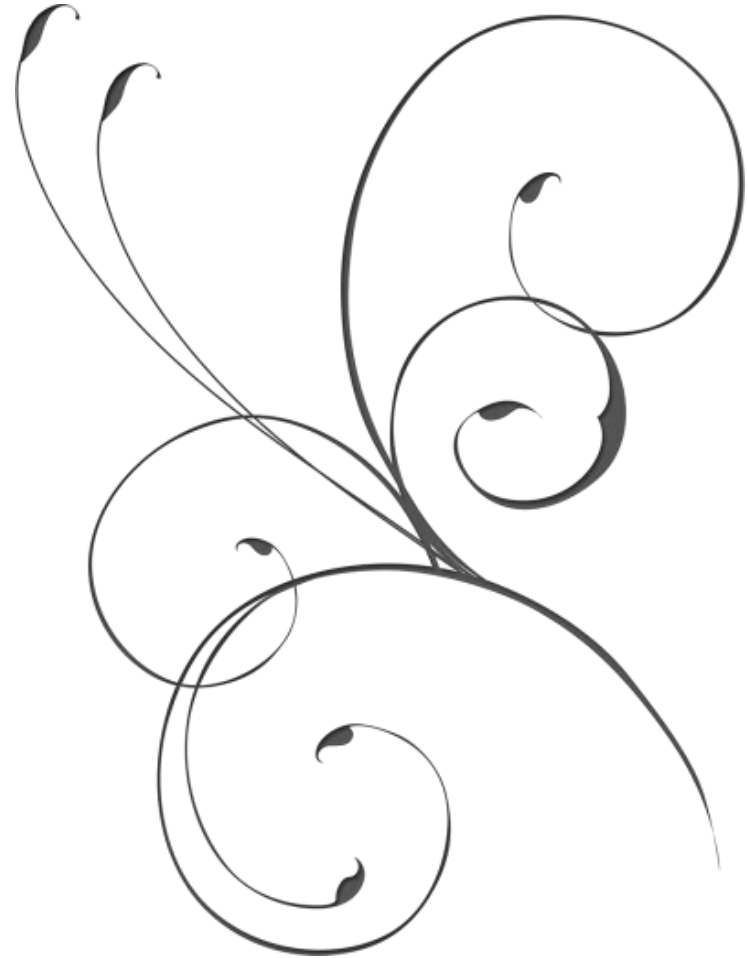


# P

## Lezlie Blasius

(Kimball)

In Kimball, my most influential teacher was Mrs. Lezlie Blasius. She was a teacher who always pointed me in the right direction and pushed me to work harder and harder. She constantly shared her love for learning with me, and she helped me overcome the great obstacles of telling time and around the world math games. Mrs. B always brought a great attitude and smile that shaped my entire outlook of learning and why it is important to get an education.



**P**

Karla Blemaster

Washington

Mrs. Blemaster- 4th grade Washington Elementary. I loved Mrs. Blemaster's class because I remember having a lot of fun in her classroom every day. We always had fun assignments, cool art projects (that I still have today!), and the best snack times with her bathtub bed. She always found a way to make us truly excited about what we were learning and enjoy our time at school.



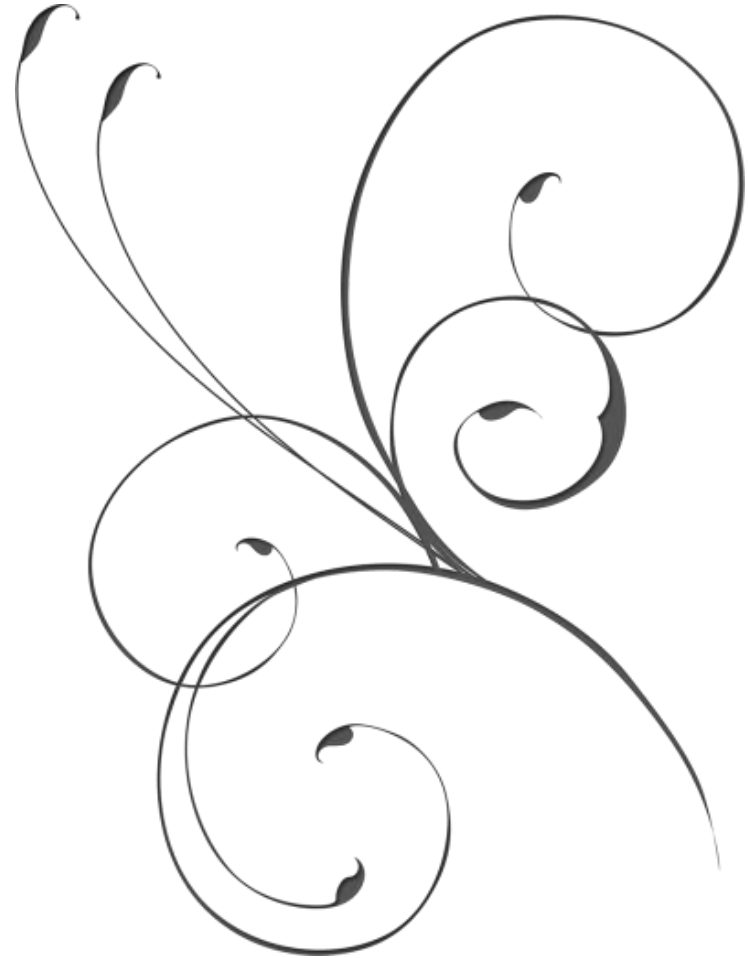


**P**

Sandy Block-Hansen

Washington

I remember Mrs. Block-Hanson would start every day of third grade with a fist bump as we entered the classroom. She was very tough and strong willed. She taught me that a positive attitude and outlook was all that was needed to handle any situation.



**P**

Bryan Bonhorst

T.F. Riggs

In Bryan Bonhorst's 10th grade English and speech class, he made language arts much more enjoyable for me, even though it is not one of my favorite subjects. In his class I learned to get out of my comfort zone to become a better speaker and writer.



**P**

Kelly Brandt

T.F. Riggs

Mr. Brandt, my chemistry and AP chemistry teacher, had the biggest impact on me during high school. He taught the material very well, and I also learned a lot about studying and work ethic from his classes.

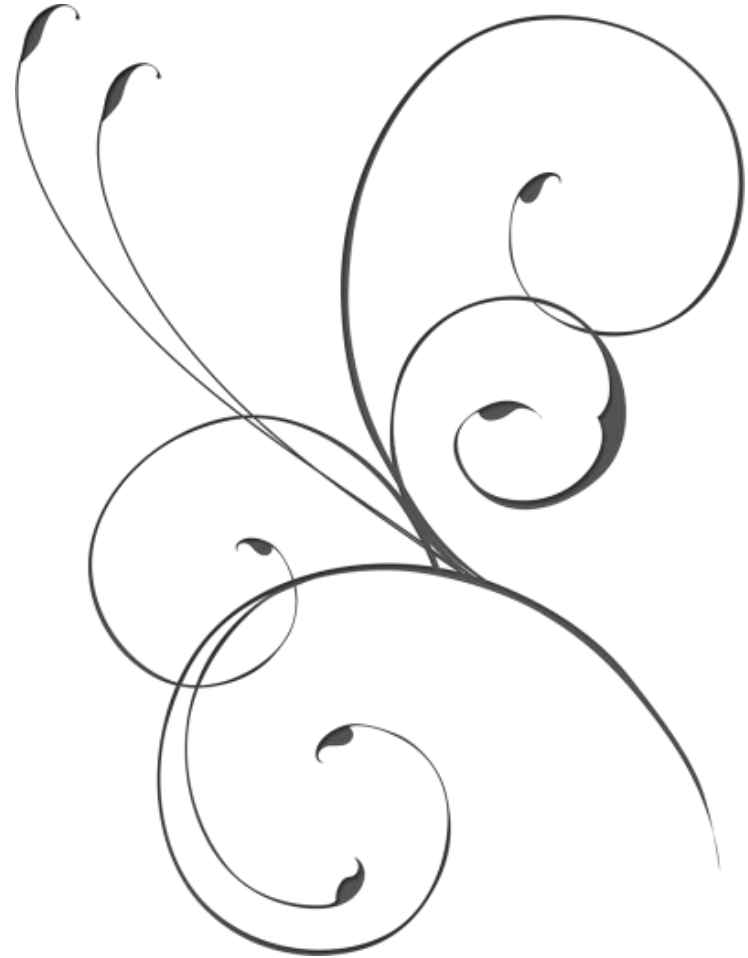


**P**

Darlene Braun

St. Joseph

Darlene Braun had an incredible impact on me. She was always so firm but in the kindest way. When my grandfather was terminally ill, she would always ask me how I was doing. This kindness and care that she showed to everyone showed me how to be compassionate to everyone.

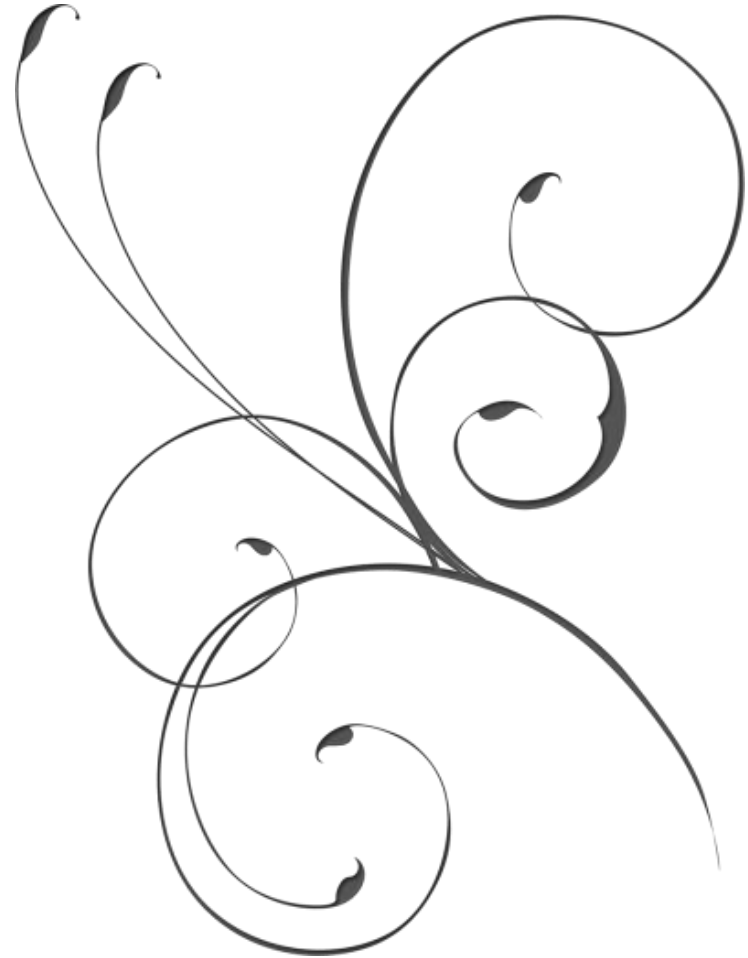


**P**

Chelsey Coverdale

GMMS

Mrs.Chelsey Coverdale, my 8th grade Pre-Algebra teacher, was the teacher that had the biggest impact on me throughout my elementary and middle school years. Her passion for math and her eagerness to teach us everyday really inspired me. She always came to school in a good mood and tried her hardest to help us understand confusing concepts. Mrs. Coverdale is one of the many teachers who I admire and inspired me to want to go into the teaching profession.



# P

## Rob Coverdale

Washington

The staff member that has had the most impact on my life is Rob Coverdale. From an early age, I was drawn to Rob's father-like qualities and how he made everyone around him feel important. He was my coach for various sports throughout my elementary and middle school career. What I always found unique about Rob is how much he desired others to be the best they could be. Rob was a huge role model in my life that someday I want to duplicate.



**P**

Kimberley Davis

Washington

Mrs. Davis, my middle school social studies teacher, had a massive impact on who I am today. She taught me to love learning and to enjoy school. She also taught me to cherish my time in middle school and high school, as well as my time with my parents. Thank you, Mrs. Davis, for everything you have done for me.



# P

## Megan Deal

Washington

Megan Deal was my second grade teacher, although I don't remember much about second grade I remember I loved to come to school because she made class so much fun. My favorite memory of her class was before christmas break, we took empty milk cartons and glued graham crackers to the sides and decorated it with candy making gingerbread houses.





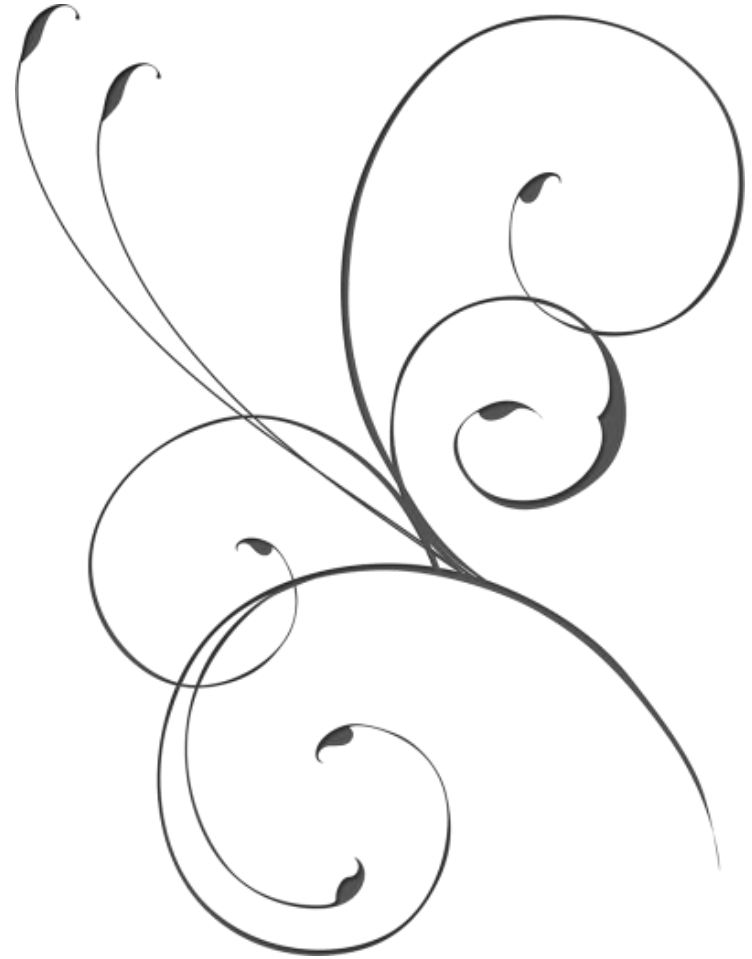


**P**

Ms. Dillon

Pepper Ridge Elementary

My fifth grade teacher, Ms. Dillon, was the type of teacher who always let me sit by her bookshelf so that I could read in class. She knew that when I was bored, I struggled to pay attention. It was a small act, but it still means the world to me.

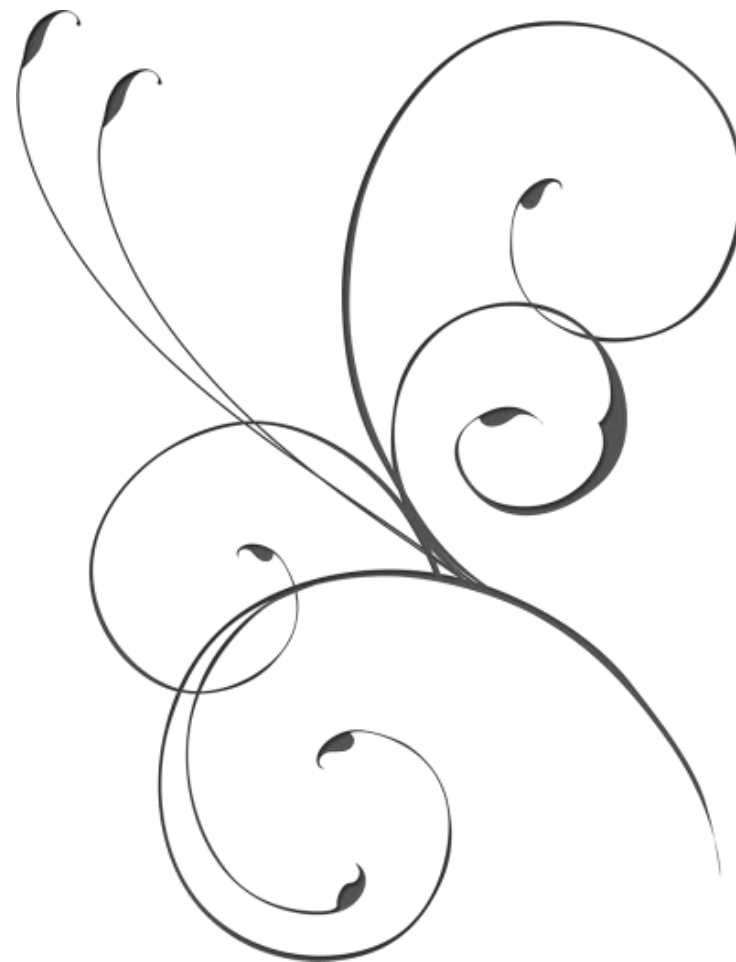


# P

## Roger Edwards

GMMS

Roger Edwards has had a great impact on my life. I had him as a Track coach and his involvement led me to pursue cross country, where I continued to compete for the entirety of my high school career. I appreciated his genuine interest in me, along with many of my fellow teammates. He always made sure to wish the team good luck and was invested in mine and everyone else's success in meeting their goals and succeeding long-term. He has always been invested in correcting my form and making sure I felt good about how a race went. I was in soccer all the way until my 8th grade year when Mr. Edwards convinced me to try Cross-Country. My 8th grade year I did both Soccer and Cross-Country and through his influence and involvement in making running enjoyable and something to strive to better myself at, I ultimately switched over. Without him coaching me, I don't think I would have chosen running. He made running fun. Thinking back on it now, I can't imagine not running.



# P

## Vasthi Gibson

T.F. Riggs

Mrs. Gibson is, by far, my most favorite teacher I've ever had. She always had a smile on her face which lit up the room. No one was ever in a bad mood in her room. All of her stories that she told made us closer to her. Her class made me realize that it possible to have fun in a classroom. Learning didn't feel like learning because we had so much fun with her.



**P**

Sadie Goodman

T.F. Riggs

Sadie Goodman has had the biggest impact on my life. She keeps track of my educational and extra-curricular activities. We get along well and enjoy a friendly banter.



**P**

Brittany Green

T.F. Riggs

The high school teacher who had the biggest impact on me was Mrs. Brittany Green. She taught me my sophomore year in accelerated algebra two, and is one of the best teachers I have ever had. Mrs. Green somehow knew how to make math less confusing and knew the best ways to teach her students. Everyday when we came into class, we always got right to work, and she was always super passionate in what she was teaching us. Outside of school, Mrs. Green was and still is a friend, and I'm so lucky I was able to have her as a teacher. I hope I can be as great of an educator as she is one day.



**P**

## Taylor Hamblin

GMMS

Taylor Hamblin. Mr. Hamblin not only helped me in school but went out of his way to prepare me for high school.

Instead of always taking tests we could write essays. He taught me how to properly write an essay while also making it fun. Mr. Hamblin made the year go by fast with his early morning tea time and breakfast. He created an atmosphere that made everyone feel welcome and appreciated.



# P

## Jenny Hodges

T.F. Riggs

Jenny Hodges. Mrs. Hodges was my drama teacher. Going into my freshman year, I was very shy. I didn't have the confidence to get out of my comfort zone. I took drama thinking it would just be watching movies and talking about it, but Mrs. Hodges gave it something. In that class I really had to learn to branch out and find my voice and confidence. Mrs. Hodges and I have developed a good relationship over my four years of knowing her. Two of which she was my teacher. She is always in a positive mood and has a smile on her face every time I see her. Mrs. Hodges has really helped shape me into the kind of person I am today.

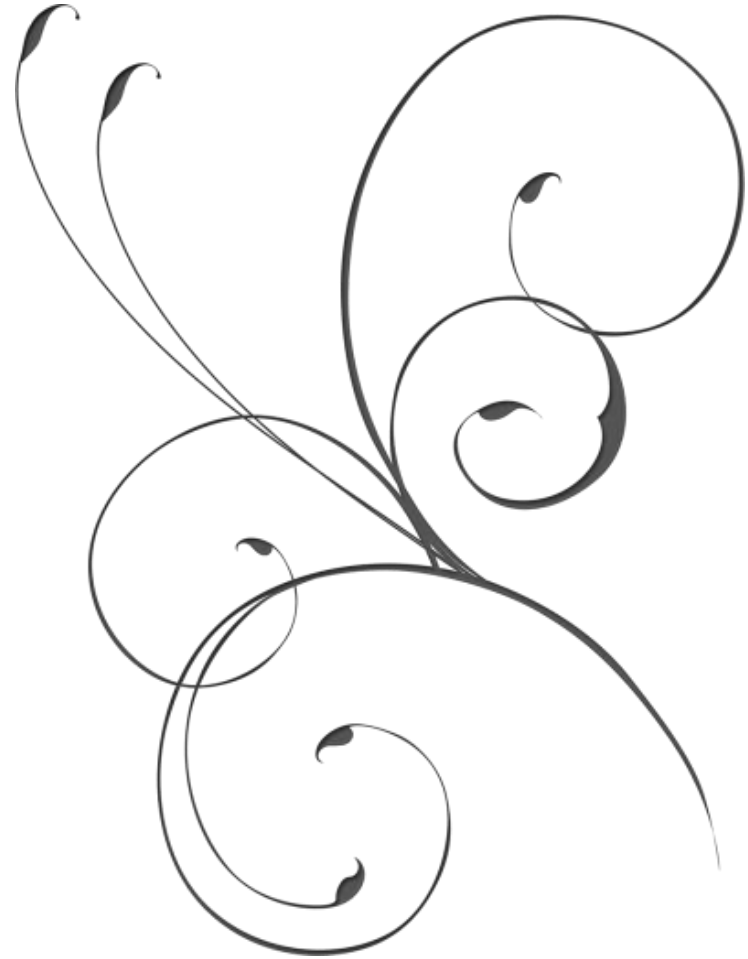


**P**

Guy Hunter

GMMS

Mr. Guy Hunter has had the biggest impact on my life. He is an all around good guy who continues to encourage me in all of my extra curricular activities and in life. I appreciate the encouraging messages that I still receive as a senior.





# P

## Teresa Johnson

T.F. Riggs

Mrs. Johnson has had the biggest impact on me during my high school career. Mrs. Johnson is a one of a kind teacher that I was lucky to have for two years. She is so selfless and is always looking out for her students. Teaching is not just a job to her, but it is something she truly loves and is passionate about. She has helped more people in her life that she may never even know or get credit for. Her class was always something I looked forward to going to and learning different life skills and how to work with many different types of people. Because of Mrs. Johnson, I now have a love for volunteering in my community and helping others. She has been a great role model for me and always someone I will look up to.



# P

## John Kalda

T.F. Riggs

Mr. Kalda has had the biggest impact on me in my high school career. As a freshman, I was really wanting to take a challenge, and Mr. Kalda took a chance and let me be in his AP Biology class the following year as sophomore. He gave me no special treatment, besides the extra patience and understanding, and treated me just like the older students. In Mr. Kalda's class, I learned that I truly could do the things I put my mind to. Not only is he a fantastic teacher, but also an amazing coach. Mr. Kalda is my distance track coach, and he always pushes me to be my best. He doesn't accept complacency, and he realizes potential and hard work. I appreciate all the time and hard work he has put in to being a teacher and a coach and I just hope he knows it doesn't go unnoticed or unappreciated. So many kids are affected by a good teacher and a good coach, and Mr. Kalda exemplifies both of those things.

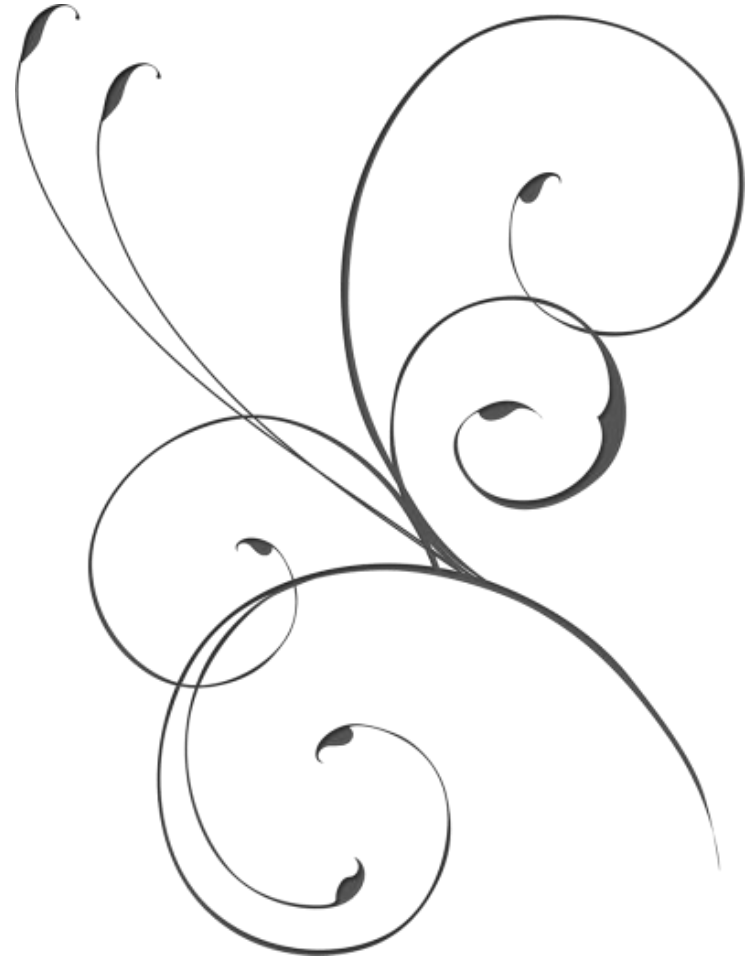


**P**

Becky Kitts

St. Joseph

Mrs. Kitts was my favorite elementary school teacher. Mrs. Kitts was my math and science teacher in the third and fourth grade. She was always very helpful and nice, and always helped me out when I needed it. She taught me just how easy math is and how to excel in school.



# P

## Chad Kringle

Buchanan

The teacher who has made the biggest impact on me in elementary school is Mr. Kringle. Throughout my fourth-grade year having him as a teacher he helped me to create goals and to have high expectations for myself. I struggled with reading before his class and he introduced me to a couple of series of books that sparked my interest. He really helped my reading skills and instilled in me a joy of reading novels. He made learning fun even though we worked hard in his class. He made me laugh everyday with his jokes and dry humor.

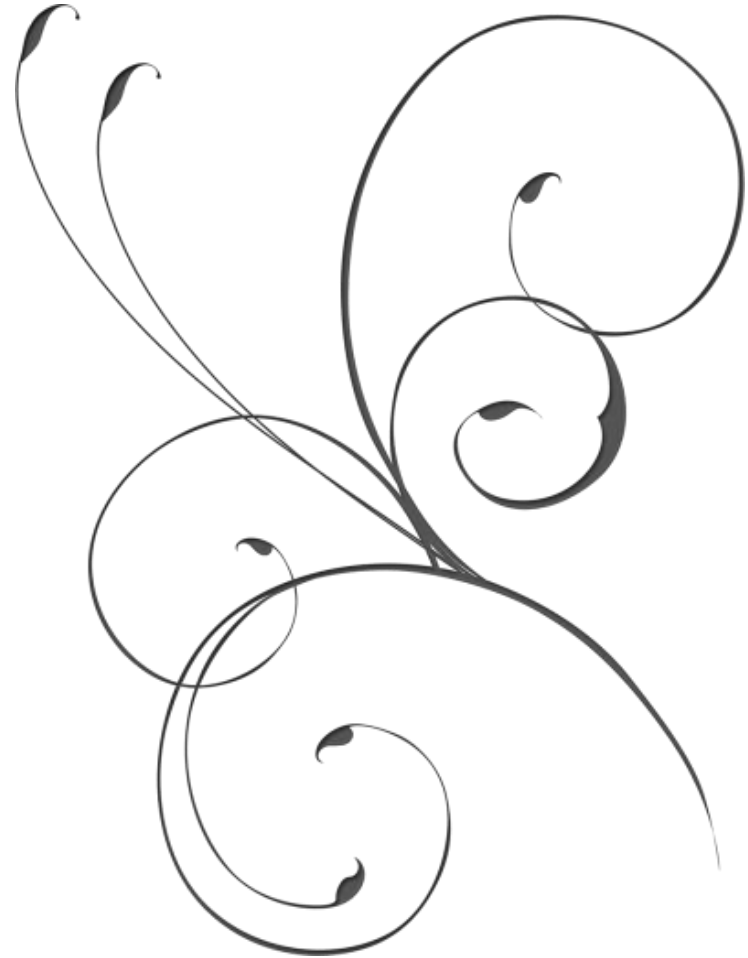


**P**

Tessa Krueger

Buchanan

The teacher that had the biggest impact on me during elementary and middle school was Mrs. Krueger. She was my teacher in grade 3-5 as she kept on moving up with our class. She made my time in those grades very enjoyable and set me and my classmates up to succeed in middle school and on to where we are at today. I have many memories for those classes that I will always remember and have had an impact on me.



**P**

Joseph Lehman

GMMS

Joseph Lehman. He was my 7th grade geography teacher. Before class everyday he always some fun activity to do and it always related to my life or made me laugh. Mr. Lehman always believed in me and motivated me to do better in school and at home. He knew I could reach my full potential and he pushed in that direction all the time. Even when he wasn't my teacher anymore, he always said hi to me in the hallways and smiled. Mr. Lehman definitely brightened my day and made my middle school learning just what I needed it to be.



# P

## Shawn Lewis

T.F. Riggs

The high school teacher who had the biggest impact on me is Mr. Lewis. I was so upset that I was forced to take physical science my freshman year while the rest of my friends were able to skip to biology, but taking this class turned out to be the biggest blessing. The daily knucks and smiles keep my days bright. I have spent over 20+ hours volunteering to correct papers for Mr. Lewis. Almost everyday I go into his room and just talk about my day. If i'm not having a good day he knows and somehow cheers me up. I will forever be thankful for all the important values he's taught me, the jokes we've shared, and the memories we've created. Thank you Mr. Lewis for showing me what a true friend looks like.

Physical science wasn't so bad after all with you as my teacher.



# P

## Kim Livermont

Washington

Kim Livermont was my third grade teacher at Washington elementary. She was such a fun teacher to have. She loves what she does and that made learning and going to her class so much better. I remember she would let me stay in her room after school and talk to her about anything and she would play music for me and my friends and we would dance and just have a good time with her. She always cared about you as a person, she wanted you to succeed. She would do everything she can to help her students understand whatever it was she was teaching that day.



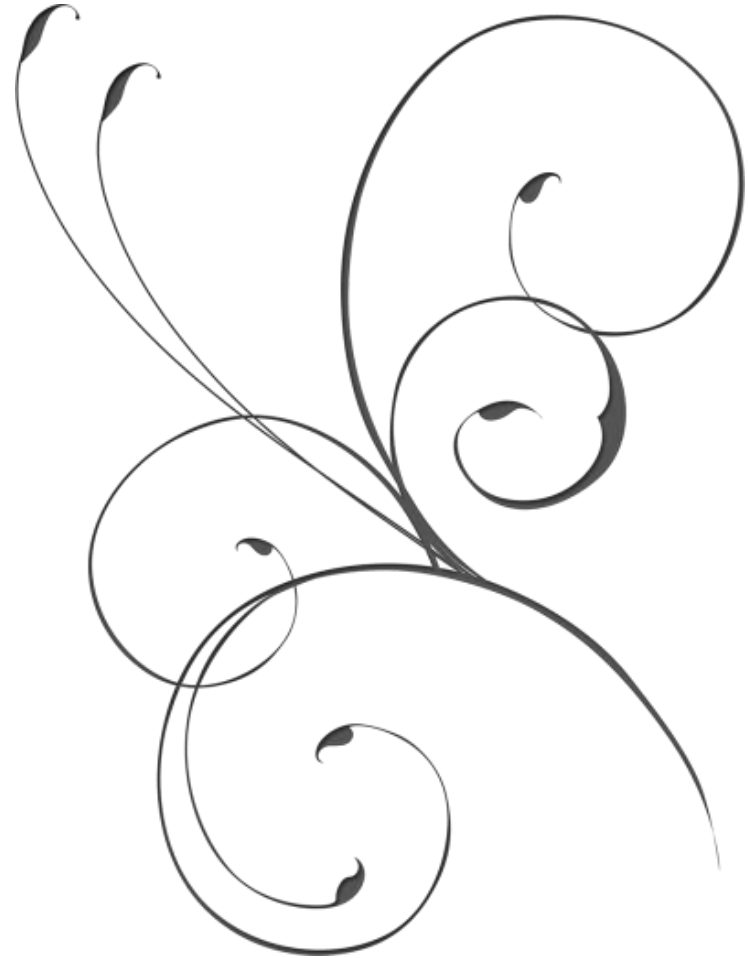


**P**

Becky McKeever

St. Joseph

Mrs. McKeever, my fifth-grade teacher, had the biggest impact on me. She instilled in me a love for learning math and for helping my classmates, and she continues to be a great example of optimism and kindness when I volunteer in her classroom each week.



**P**

Mackenzie McKeithan-Jensen

T.F. Riggs

Mrs. McKeithan, overall, has impacted my life the most. She taught me to love music, which led to so many wonderful experiences and friends. She is a compassionate teacher whose door is never closed. Without her, life would be dull. Thank you so much, Mrs. McKeithan, for adding color to my life. I will miss you dearly.



# P

## Jordan Meland

T.F. Riggs

Jordan Meland was the nutrition and wellness teacher my freshman year of high school. She was new so it was like we were both starting high school together. I was really scared to start high school so having her as my first period teacher really helped start my day off on a good note. Over the year we became really close and stayed close even after my class with her ended. She became not only a mentor but a friend.

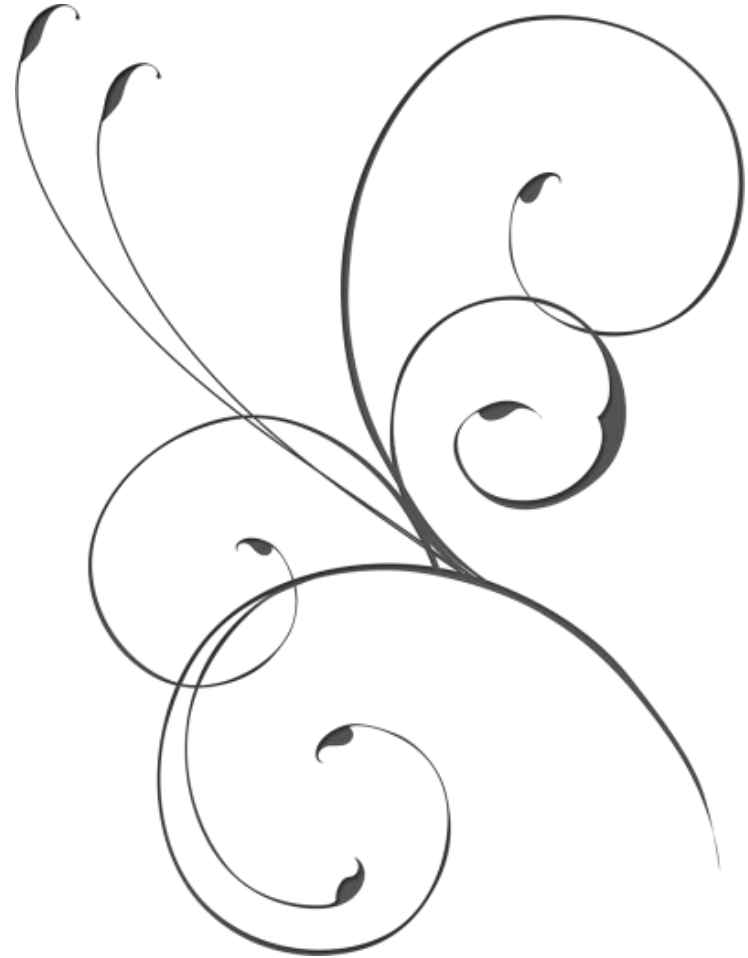


# P

## Jay Mickelson

T.F. Riggs

Mr. Jay Mickelson is someone I greatly admire. I can only hope to be as good a person as he is. Mick not only jokes with his students, but also asks about our troubles, passions, and dreams. Academic success is not the first characteristic Mr. Mick assesses, it is one's soul and heart.





## Brian Moser

T.F. Riggs

Brian Moser, the athletic director for the Pierre school district, has had the greatest impact on my life because he encouraged me to pursue a career in education as well as continue my love for gymnastics by continuing to coach and possibly becoming a judge for the sport.



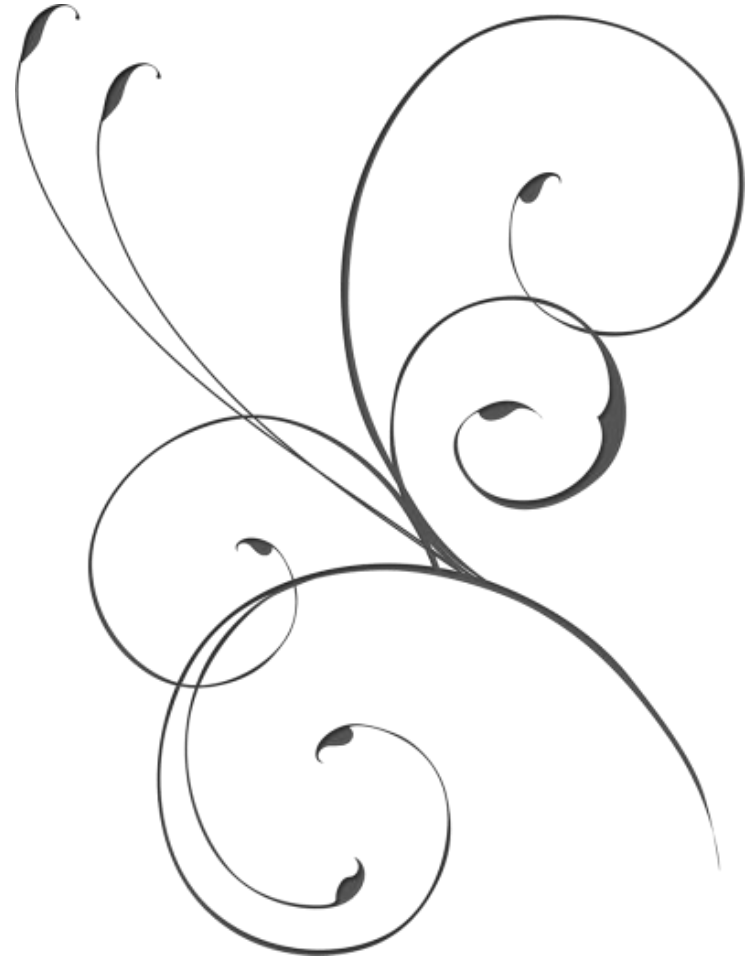


**P**

Ms. Nielsen

GMMS

My 7th grade English teacher, Ms. Nielsen was a big influence on my education. She was a great teacher who made it easy to learn, and the atmosphere of her classroom was always upbeat and happy. She made me want to attend her class. The information and knowledge from her class laid the foundation for the rest of my academic career.



**P**

Kathy Norwick

GMMS

Mrs. Norwick. She always gave me confidence in math.



# P

## Brianna Postma

T.F. Riggs

Ms. Postma was a legend when it came to teaching. She always made sure everyone understood the subject before progressing any further. Her loud and clear voice made learning an paying attention very easy. Ms. Postma treated everyone with respect even when respect was not returned to her. She fueled the flame for learning that burned inside of me and pushed me to reach outside of my comfort zone. I will forever be grateful for her and her teaching.







## Kim Rogers

GMMS

Mrs. Rogers: as a school counselor she genuinely cares for all students and aims to get to know each and every one of them. She strives to make everyone feel welcome, not only so they continue to attend school and learn, but also so they have positivity and happiness in their lives. Mrs. Rogers continues to inspire students every day.



**P**

Jay Schwartz

T.F. Riggs

Mr. Schwartz is the teacher who has had the biggest impact on my high school career and my life. His patience amazes me. His kindness amazes me. I love the way he teaches as he explains in depth and always further explains if anyone doesn't understand any specific concept. His willingness to answer all my questions, both in class and outside of class, has truly made me love math even more.

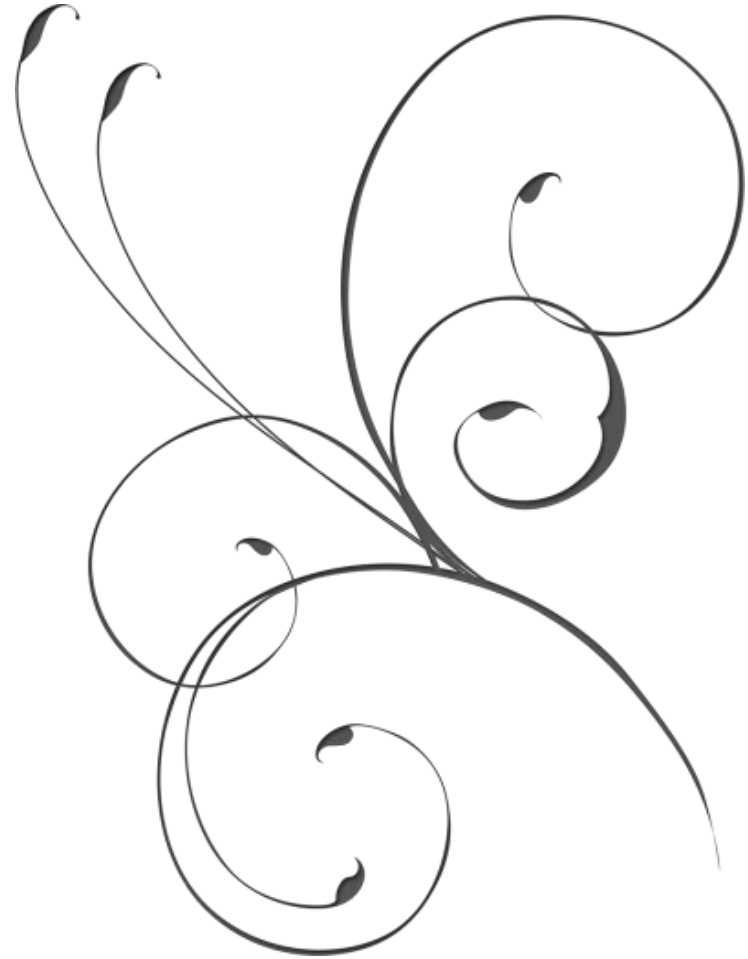


# P

Mrs. Shafer

Buchanan

My fourth-grade elementary teacher, Mrs. Shafer, is the teacher who has had the biggest impact on me. I remember loving math and doing multiplication problems easily, and, one day, Mrs. Shafer had me teach the class. I remember being so nervous, but Mrs. Shafer gave me confidence to face my fears and stand up in front of the class. She would also answer ALL of my questions without turning me away or getting annoyed (believe me, I had tons of them).



# P

## Missy Slaathaug

T.F. Riggs

Mrs. Slaathaug had the biggest impact on me. She impacted both my education and my life since she has not only supported me academically, but also she has taught me how to have trust in myself. Mrs. Slaathaug has helped me on anything I need. She has not only taught me English as a second language, but she has also taught a lot of things about myself that I did not think I would be capable of doing.



# P

## Dan Snyder

T.F. Riggs

Dan Snyder has been my Weights and Conditioning teacher for my entire high school career. I decided to take his course my senior year despite it not being able to count as credit. I just couldn't picture my senior year without his influence and support. He has watched me grow and always challenges my ability to get stronger. I always look forward to his class. From the start he has always engaged in light-hearted jokes with all of his students and has helped with my confidence as a whole. He takes a sincere interest in his students, which, in turn, has caused me to become more out-spoken and confident in my abilities. I wanted to acknowledge and thank Mr. Snyder for the special effort he made, and how he has impacted my high school experience and life there after. I'll always remember him and be grateful for the difference he's made in my life.



**P**

Adam Spoehr

T.F. Riggs

One high school teacher that had a big impact on my education was Mr. Spoehr. One of my least favorite subjects in school has always been history. That was until I took Mr. Spoehr's US History class my Junior year of high school. He made learning about the past interesting. He also always made time to talk to each student every day.



**P**

Greg Starr

T.F. Riggs

Mr. Starr has inspired me as both a coach and a teacher. He has helped me through tough times and has inspired me to never be satisfied and to always aim higher. I look up to him as a role model because he is always caring and supportive. He always knows when to make a joke or to just be there to talk. He has helped make me stronger than I ever could have imagined, and he never let me give up no matter what the circumstance was.



**P**

Christina Staskewich

T.F. Riggs

Christina Staskewich is amazing. She can relate to so many students at a whole other level. The way she teaches and helps out kids is amazing and has made me consider becoming a teacher. Even on her worst days she puts everyone first.





# P

## Steve Steele

T.F. Riggs

Mr. Steele had the biggest impact on my education and life during high school. Mr. Steele was my biology teacher my freshman year. He was the first teacher that made me understand and learn more about biology. He helped me to develop an interest in science and what it does in the world around us. Mr. Steele was also my tennis coach. He is a huge reason I have such a strong love for the game. He is one of the first coaches to believe in me more than I believe in myself. He taught me that through hard work and self belief I can accomplish my goals.



# P

## Amber Stout

Jefferson

Mrs. Stout at Jefferson Elementary had a massive impact on my future plans early in my life. She took a hands on approach to her science class, and always went the extra mile to make science fun. For example, to showcase how chicks were developed, she could have slapped a poster on the wall showing the different stages of development in an egg. Instead, Mrs. Stout incubated a handful of eggs INSIDE the classroom, and let us watch the development in real time. Another time Stout raised trout eggs inside an aquarium, and upon their development, our classes released the fish into the Missouri River. She was the inspiration for me to follow a career in the sciences. While I have decided to pursue a different major, she was the first one to get me interested in science.



# P

## Maria Swartos

Jefferson

The Elementary teacher that I chose is Mrs. Swartos, and she is currently a Kindergarten teacher at Jefferson Elementary. Even though I did not have her as my own teacher she has made a big impact on my life. I go into her classroom 1 to 2 times a week to help with whatever she needs; i do this for a class I am in called gov-to-gov. Thanks to her, I have decided to become a teacher. She is incredible with her students. She is calm, cool, and collected which is exactly what you need to be when working with young kids. I have loved getting to know Mrs. Swartos because she has been nothing but kind to me. She will talk to me about anything and I feel so comfortable around her. Even though I get a lot of weird looks when I say I want to become a teacher, being around her assures me that it is what I want to do. She is doing what she loves and she's having fun doing it. I want to strive to be like Mrs. Swartos in my future because I look up to her so much. I am very thankful I decided to volunteer in her classroom because it has impacted my life greatly.





## Chris Swiden

T.F. Riggs

I am going to choose Chris Swiden from the high school. I was able to have him as a teacher when I took his Anatomy and Physiology class as a senior. I really enjoyed taking his class because I plan to go into the medical field. I've always been a curious person and wanted to know the answer to everything I could think of. Mr. Swiden has been the one teacher who encouraged my curiosity more than any of the others. He always helps me to find the answers to the many questions I have and also leads me to wonder about new questions. He is one of the main teachers that I feel pushes me to be my best self and excel in my life.



# P

## Craig Ullmann

GMMS

I am going to choose Craig Ullmann from the middle school. He was my eighth grade P.E. teacher. He was the first teacher who pushed me to be my true self and helped bring me out to my fullest potential. He always told us stories about his pass life that taught my class and I valuable life lessons, not just about P.E. or Health class.



**P**

Elizabeth Vogt

T.F. Riggs

Elizabeth Vogt is by far the greatest teacher I have ever had.

She expects a lot of her students, demanding their best effort. This demand for constant perfection helps hone in on students writing and grammar skills. I would not be where I am without Mrs. Vogt's Honors English.

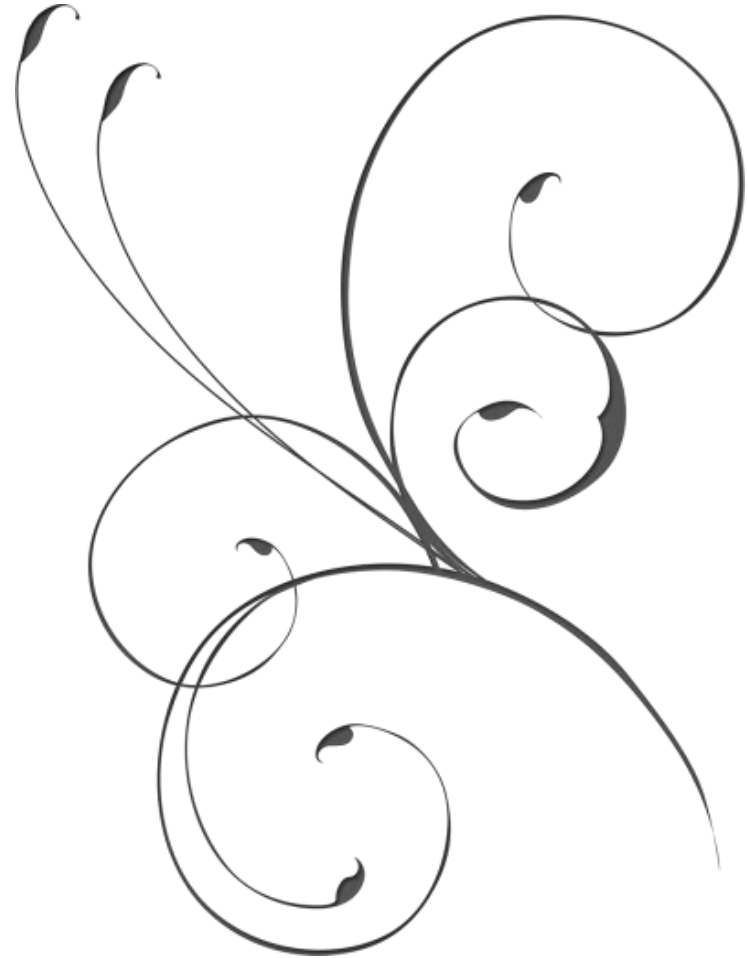


# P

## Becky Walsh

St. Joseph

The elementary teacher who has had the biggest impact on life would have to be Mrs. Walsh. Mrs. Walsh was my fourth and fifth grade teacher and she taught me about one of the most important lessons I've learned: positivity. Mrs. Walsh was a very happy, positive teacher and we could always tell she wanted to be with us. She has an extremely fun style of teaching and I will never forget the states and capitals because of her song! Mrs. Walsh taught me things like reading and grammar, but the most important things were the life lessons. I learned that conflicts could be resolved through talking through it, and she also taught us that even when things don't go your way, they can be made a lot better by just having a good attitude. I feel that Mrs. Walsh is a teacher that really only comes once in a student's life and I was very lucky to have been taught by her.



**P**

Paula Weeldreyer

Jefferson

Paula Weeldreyer was the teacher that had the biggest impact on my in elementary and middle school. Ms. Wheeldreyer always used fun and creative ways to teach her students concepts that were challenging or down right boring. She kept me curious and was always willing to help.





**P**

Christie Zander

Jefferson

Christie Zander, my second grade teacher, who always had hair clips in her desk for the days that I refused to brush my hair. She also cared about all of her students so much, and was such a great teacher.

