



2010 STATE RECOGNITION AWARDS

OUTSTANDING YOUNG EDUCATOR AWARD

Brandon Mack

Mathematics Teacher, Central Valley High School
Central Valley School District

Brandon Mack currently teaches AP Calculus and 9th grade Geometry at Central Valley High School. In his first year of teaching Calculus at CV 54% of Brandon's students achieved the top rating of 5 on the AP test and he had a total of 77% of his 39 students pass the test. Brandon is an outstanding teacher, but the impressive statistics are only part of what makes him so special.

Brandon is completely and selflessly dedicated to the students at Central Valley. He is extremely supportive of extra-curricular activities and consistently volunteers his time. Michael Hittle, Principal of Central Valley School District says, "A prime example of Brandon's genuine support for students and our school was the time when I went to the press box, during a soccer game, to find Brandon tutoring a student in Calculus while he ran the scoreboard and game clock." Brandon has also been known to visit garage sales in search of items that he can turn into Central Valley paraphernalia.

He has a wonderful sense of humor and will write students names on pencils saying things such as "math loves Joe, Joe loves math". His Calculus students wear t-shirts displaying cola bottles which say "Calc is #1." Brandon's motto is "I don't make math fun...math is fun" and to Brandon this isn't just a saying, he makes math come alive for his students.

Brandon is committed to continually improving his instructional practice and has been involved in the Riverpoint Advanced Mathematics Project (a cohort group of college and high school math teachers). Working with this group has helped Brandon to develop what he calls "gourmet lessons and units". His work with this group has been extremely successful and he has spread what he has learned with other staff members by voluntarily hosting after school "Math Talks". These sessions have been extremely successful and staff members have requested him to hold more of these engaging sessions. Mr. Mack is a one of a kind teacher. He is a leader, a true kid magnet and is loved by all who have had the opportunity to be in his class or work with him.