

## Julie Lima Boyle

### Rhode Island 2012 Teacher of the Year

Julie Lima Boyle is a secondary English language Arts teacher at Coventry High School. She has taught for 12 years as an English teacher. Her commitment to teaching excellence stemmed from her love of the written word and a desire to inspire and share words, both written and spoken, with her students. Julie participated in a summer writing institute hosted by the Rhode Island Writing Project, which helped to drive her participation in service-oriented and group activities. Julie has designed and implemented professional development opportunities for her colleagues as well as written and earned a Perkins grant to facilitate a six week book study to support teachers in developing strategies to motivate students to write.

Prior to entering the teaching profession, Julie worked at a book store channeling her passion for the written word by selling books. It struck her one day that she missed “talking about writing and literature with others”, so she enrolled in a program to pursue her secondary teaching certificate.

As a teacher, Julie is always “evolving, honing, researching, and finding new ways to communicate my love of reading and writing”. She wears a bracelet that states “Ancora imparo” This is a quote from Michelangelo that means, “I am still learning.” She embraces this phrase and strives to learn and develop as an educator each day. “Improving my knowledge of technology is a goal that is important to me because students are increasingly relying on technology as their primary mode of processing and learning”. Julie incorporates PowerPoints, Video Streaming and Facebook to enhance learning within her classroom. She also posts tools and resources on her department website to share with colleagues. Support of colleagues and mentors have been essential in Julie’s development and growth as an educator.

Julie has served as a cooperating teacher for future students throughout Rhode Island. One of her roles as the ELA Curriculum Coordinator is to coordinate practicum placements and student teaching experiences in response to college requests. She has also worked as a mentor for new teachers within her district. Julie participates in, facilitates and organizes professional development for her district. She also was a member of the work group that developed Coventry’s Teacher Evaluation System, which was accepted by the Rhode Island Department of education and will be fully implemented in 2012.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Political Science from Rhode Island College and a Master of Arts degree from Rhode Island College.

Her colleagues, administrators and civic leaders say of her:

“Over the school year, Mrs. Boyle consistently challenges students to answer high quality and higher order, thought provoking questions.”

“Julie Boyle was born to teach and born to lead.”

“What I witnessed in Julies Boyle’s classroom were consistently engaging, creative, challenging lessons implementing diverse and highly successful teaching strategies.”