

## Kerri Luchka: Winner of the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science Teaching



“To receive the Presidential Award is a great honor and acknowledgment of the hard work, dedication, and determination to become the best teacher that I can be for my students. I am extremely grateful to my family, talented colleagues, administrators, mentors, students, and school community who have supported and taught me so much over the years. Receiving this prestigious award challenges me to continue growing while honoring all those who have helped me to become the teacher I am today.”

### Kerri Luchka Coventry, RI | K-6, Science, 2018

**The official biography below was current at the time of the award.**

Kerri Luchka has been an educator for more than 15 years. For the past year, she has taught both mathematics and science to sixth graders at Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School. She previously spent eight years teaching third, fourth, and fifth grade at Western Coventry Elementary School and six years teaching at The Lower School at Sweet Peas Village. Kerri has been a National

Energy Education Development (NEED) project leader in multiple schools where she educates and inspires students to consider human impact and climate change. She encourages her students to innovate, work together, and problem solve solutions to real-world problems. Most importantly, she encourages them to gain the confidence and passion to lead. Kerri and her students have been recognized as national finalists in the NEED Youth Awards. Kerri was also recognized by the Eastern States Exposition as the 2017 Agriscience Teacher of the Year. Kerri has served as a member of Coventry’s science task force where she collaborated with and helped to develop a new districtwide elementary science curriculum aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards. She has worked with colleagues to develop and implement professional development within her district. Kerri earned a B.S. in elementary education from Rhode Island College and is certified to teach first through sixth grade elementary.