

This teacher received the majority of votes from both students and teachers with 50% of the vote.

According to students, this teacher is engaging, challenging, inspiring, organized, responsive, wonderful, really funny, relatable, kind, positive, understanding, wise, supportive, encouraging, forthcoming, amazing, genuine, loving - no, very very loving, smart of course, and the best. While this teacher can be very fun and cool, the teacher can also be scary sometimes, but in spite of this, the teacher is always here to help us with our work and will always show up to school with a bright smile. Most importantly, the teacher's lessons are not as boring but are engaging.

According to this teacher's peers, this teacher has passion for the work of a teacher and inspires students to become active learners. The learning and interest in this teacher's classroom continues to be talked about in other courses. This teacher takes time to work with students after school, challenges students every day, cares for the students, understands each student's struggles and talents, and is always willing to help and keep students rolling in the zone of proximal development.

This teacher is Mrs. Kasana Cha-Xiong. As a challenging teacher, she pushes us far beyond our limits so that we as students can achieve our goals. She sacrifices so much of her time to bring us forward and to become successful. Reminding us every day from right to wrong. In addition, she is also supportive as she always asks us "Am I going too fast? Do you need me to slow down? Any questions?" When we do not understand a problem or a question, she would ask if it was her teaching that confused us or if it was the questions. Sometimes, she would explain the content in Hmong and in English and take her time to explain the materials so we would have a better understanding. She is always willing to stop what she is doing to help us out.



Mrs. Cha-Xiong inspires us all of us to work hard, to do more, to get a better grade, and to do well on our test so that we can go to college one day. Although she gives us hard and challenging work, and when learning gets hard, she does not give up on us, but motivates the whole class to not give up so we can improve our reading skills and do more than what we are capable of. She pushes us to work harder and challenges us to think outside the box. Thus, she inspires us to become better than who we were before, and encourages us to seek help when needed.

Mrs. Cha-Xiong not only teaches science and writing well, but she also teaches life lessons that students acquire for the rest of their lives. She makes sure that we are responsible and respectful towards one another. She also gives us good advices when we are struggling or she will always be there to cheer us up. She is strong with her teaching skills by relating what we learned in class to life events or her life events. She tells us stories about her past experiences and encourages us to do more than what

she did since we still have an opportunity. She prepares us for the future by telling us what the high schoolers are expected to do and she sets strict rules to prepare us to turn assignments in on time. She makes every student want to learn more and know more.

According to students, "She is by far the best greatest teacher. She is my motivator, and is an example of a hard-working mother and teacher. She has made a huge impact in my life."

The Excellence in Teaching Award is bestowed upon one middle school and one high school teacher who has proven to be excellent and organized in all matters of teaching, engaging students and providing challenge in every aspect of the classroom and life-long learning. They are responsive to students' questions and concerns ultimately inspiring all students to become the very best they can be.

The key words are ...

Engaging Challenging Organized Responsive and Inspiring

High School Award (Bob Ertl filling in for Tracy Eastburn)

Here are some of the things that students and staff are saying about our high school recipient...



- This teacher has been so supportive... he has helped me to do my best. He says that moving through challenges will only benefit my future. One time, when I could not stay after school, he understood and wished me great luck on a huge scholarship. With his inspiring support, I earned the scholarship. He is an awesome teacher!
 - This teacher has demonstrated that he cares about his students and his commitment to their success. He is highly admired. His work ethic and responsiveness to his coworkers are also highlights of his commitment to HAPA. I am proud to call him my coworker...
 - Whenever I stay after school for extra help, this teacher is always there. When I lose motivation, he helps me get back on track... I have asked him, "Why don't you ever get annoyed with students when we ask a lot of questions? Especially me? (lol)" and he replied "no I don't because I was just like you when I was in school, I needed help and was eager to learn." His response inspired me.
 - This teacher prepares students for college. And gives us the chance to do things on our own.
 - He makes sure everyone is involved in class and that the course work is understandable.
- He exemplifies all the traits for this award because he treats us like we are college students. He wants us to experience what college is like. He always tries to help students and clarify things when we are confused. He is organized all the time and always encourages us to go even further. One day he gave us a big lecture about college and doing our work. That inspired me to work harder.
 - This teacher does not usually leave work until late. He corrects tests thoroughly and makes sure students understand the concepts he is teaching. If a student doesn't seem to know how to use a skill, he will explain it in a way the student can understand. Although math may be boring, he always finds a way to make it enjoyable. No matter how many questions you ask it will not bother him, even repeated questions.
 - "This is the MAN right here!"

It is with great pleasure to announce that Mr. Teng Vue is the high school Excellence in Teaching recipient!

Congratulations Mr. Vue!