

RICHARD EDWARD (RICK) GUENTHER

GRADUATED FROM EDGAR HIGH SCHOOL IN 1987

After graduating from Edgar High School, Rick began higher education at the School of Radiology at Marshfield Hospital. He then enrolled at UWMC, Wausau and transferred to UW Madison. He graduated from Adam State in Alamosa CO earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in science education in 1997. Rick began his teaching career in Young AZ and then moved on to Frederick CO Middle School. Rick taught science and math. With the large Spanish speaking enrollment, he learned to speak Spanish with tapes and instructional books from a public library and by talking with students. He soon realized the need for ELL (English Language Learners.) Due to his success with ELL students, he was encouraged to transfer to Longmont to teach at Skyline H.S. in 2004.

Rick taught full time math and soon began working with students on computers. He and his students "dumpster dived" to retrieve discarded computers at Good Will and Salvation Army type stores. After school hours, he and the student fixed computers, added memory and gave them to the students for their homes. In 2007 Rick received his Master of Arts in the Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies Program from University of Northern Colorado and he holds a State of Colorado Professional Teacher license endorsed for secondary mathematics and secondary science.

In the fall of 2008 Rick began teaching one section of computer science and created a computer curriculum. He initiated a program where college computer instructors from CU Boulder arranged for grad students to work as interns at Skyline and paid for by a National Science grant. Rick soon became a full time computer programming instructor and that department has grown to 1.25 fulltime teachers. The computer curriculum continues to grow under Rick's leadership. In April 2012, Rick was honored as the winner of the National Center for Women & Information Technology Aspirations in Computing Educator Award. Three of the 22 girls recognized were from Rick's classes.

With the help of a couple of students Rick recently created the EATS (Edgar Area Trail Supporters) website for Edgar's Scotch Creek Woodland Preserve.

Rick paid the site registration fee and a student at Skyline H.S. is now maintaining the website. The website is www.edgartrails.com

Rick and his wife Kathy love living in the western part of the United States.