

Natalie Kant
Golden Apple Award
Dec. 3, 2007

After 12 years teaching at the middle school level, Natalie Kant now uses her talents to teach parents and students through the Connections Program. She started with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District 17 years ago at Soldotna Middle School, and from there went to Kenai Middle School.

Now on her fifth year with Connections, she has implemented reading programs to benefit students, explored credit recovery and standards-based curriculum options, and opened a Connections office in Kenai. This is in addition to her day-to-day work tailoring students' Individualized Educational Plans and advising parents on curriculum decisions and teaching strategies.

Connections Principal Lee Young said Mrs. Kant continually chooses to do extra things and go above and beyond the call of duty. "Mrs. Kant is a quality individual who I view as a master teacher. She demonstrates flexibility, professionalism, empathy and creativeness."

Opening a Kenai Connections office has been a particularly large contribution because it helps provide better educational opportunities to home-school learners in that community. The office also benefits from her expertise.

"I can say without reservation that Mrs. Kant is one of the finest educators that I have seen during my career," Mr. Young said. "She has that special ability to bring out the best in all of our students, but especially our most educationally challenged students."

We, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education, are proud to recognize Natalie Kant for her efforts on behalf of parents, students and the School District.