

2021 CTE NEW TEACHER OF THE YEAR

CHELSEA BERNARD

Family & Consumer Sciences

Northridge High School

Greeley, CO

In her first three years of teaching, Chelsea Bernard has demonstrated outstanding relationship building skills as well as creativity and innovation as she has developed lessons for both the in-person and remote classroom.

Chelsea has a way of building relationships with students that is invaluable. Her ability to connect with students who are often overlooked is amazing. Her first year of teaching, she had a student who presented significant challenges and was very difficult to connect with. As a new teacher, and someone who was in the process of getting her alternative teaching license, her teaching partner/mentor was worried for Chelsea as to how this student would treat her. Chelsea almost immediately connected with this student, something no one else had been able to do, and became a trusted adult and confidant.

Chelsea brings industry to life in the classroom through creativity and innovation. Chelsea worked as an interior designer before making a career change to become a teacher. She uses her interior design expertise and innovative mindset to build engaging and exciting lesson plans for students in multiple areas including Child Development, Life Management, Interpersonal Relationships, Teen Challenges and Interior Design. Students are eager to take her classes because they know that they will be fun, engaging and worthwhile.

Chelsea shows dedication to Family and Consumer Sciences. She has taken on many new challenges with open arms. In her first year of teaching, Chelsea took on the lead FCCLA Advisor role at Northridge High School and led two different student teams to Gold Medals at Nationals. A nominator from the Greeley School District said that Chelsea “readily shares and collaborates with other teachers in the district about projects, fundraisers, and ideas for growth” As you can see, Chelsea is an asset to the FCS Department at Northridge High School and to Greeley - Evans School District 6.

While Chelsea Bernard took a different path to becoming a Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher, she has proven herself as an exceptional young professional. There is no doubt that she will continue to connect with students and use innovation and creativity to develop engaging lessons for years to come.

Chelsea Bernard embodies the characteristics of a Career & Technical Education teacher, which makes her a deserving recipient of the CACTE CTE New Teacher of the Year Award! Congratulations, Chelsea!