



Middle School Teacher of the Year 2025-2026

Amanda Ottinger, Teacher of English

Kingsway Regional School District is proud to recognize **Amanda “Mandy” Ottinger**, an exceptional

English educator and instructional leader, as the **2025–2026 Middle School Teacher of the Year** at **Kingsway Regional Middle School**. Since joining the district in **2012**, Mandy has been a dedicated and highly effective teacher whose impact on students, colleagues, and the school community is both meaningful and lasting.

A graduate of **Rowan University** with a **Bachelor of Science in English and Secondary Education**, Mandy also holds a **Master of Arts in Education** from **Wilmington University**. Over the past **13 years**, all spent at Kingsway, she has taught successfully at both the high school and middle school levels and currently serves as an **8th-grade literature teacher and team leader**. Her ability to connect with students, differentiate instruction, and maintain high professional standards distinguishes her as an outstanding practitioner.



Mandy’s commitment to professional growth is evident in every aspect of her work. She actively seeks opportunities to refine her practice through committee service, workshops, peer observations, and professional seminars, always with the goal of improving student outcomes. She reflects regularly on her instruction, implements new strategies with purpose, and shares effective practices generously with colleagues, strengthening the collective work of her team.

In the classroom, Mandy creates a warm, positive learning environment grounded in relationships, respect, and high expectations. She centers her teaching on growth and goal-setting, listening closely to students and taking time to understand what motivates each learner. Her students rise to meet her expectations because they know she believes in them and is fully invested in their success. Reflecting on her role as an educator, Mandy shared, "**Over the years, I have been able to build meaningful relationships with students, colleagues, and families alike. My students' success is personal to me because of how much I value those relationships.**"

Engaging, differentiated instruction is a hallmark of Mandy’s practice. She skillfully adapts lessons to meet diverse learning needs, whether increasing rigor while exploring theme in *The Outsiders* or providing targeted support as students develop context clues in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Through conferencing, small-group instruction, Socratic seminars, collaboration, and independent practice, she ensures every student has access to meaningful learning experiences.

Mandy will be formally recognized at the January 22, 2026, Board of Education Meeting and this spring at the Annual County Teacher of the Year Luncheon. Kingsway is fortunate to have an educator whose dedication, expertise, and leadership enrich the middle school community. **Congratulations, Mandy, on this well-deserved recognition as the 2025–2026 Middle School Teacher of the Year.** Your commitment to students and lasting impact on teaching and learning are truly inspiring.