Veterans of Foreign Wars

Department of Vermont

Teacher of the Year 2019-2020 Grades 6-8

Taylor Goodland is a 7th & 8th grade teacher at St. Albans Town Education Center in St. Albans.

He is sponsored by St. Albans Post 758 post and it's auxiliary.

Dear Veterans of Foreign Wars:

September 19, 2019

We proudly nominate Taylor Goodland for the VFW National Citizenship Teacher Award. Taylor, a 7th and 8th grade Social Studies and Math teacher at St. Albans Town Education Center, has had over 15 years of experience teaching in Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Alaska.

Taylor exemplifies democratic spirit and models those values by encouraging discussion over current events and historical trends. His students watch CNN-IO and engage in heated debates, often sending them to other classes still fired up. He shows excitement about history, not only by reenacting Revolutionary War drills with



his class, but by reciting names, dates, places, and motivations behind the actions of historical events. His interactive Wagon Trail unit is testament to his desire to illustrate our country's growth and development. Taylor's energy is infectious, but there is a serious side to his teaching.

He advocates for student rights, helping them develop their own sense of responsibility and citizenship. Taylor has led "Outreach programs", taking students into the community to team about our local history, economy, and for volunteering. He has brought student to the State House to observe how our state government works, from community, to state, and country, students learn about their place in our world, and the foundations on which they are based,

Taylor participates in Veteran's Day activities with his classes at Taylor Park to honor our Veterans. The Pledge of Allegiance, said daily, models respect for the nag and our country. Through these lessons and activities, he fosters a love and pride for American tradition. Additionally, he enforces kindness and respect among students and staff. He models fairness and respect each day, building good citizens and proud, young Americans.

Having dealt with his own personal hardships, Taylor's upbeat personality and passion for teaching has made him a consistent positive force in our school. The understanding he imparts on about being good citizens now and in the future make him an excellent candidate for the VFW National Citizenship Teacher Award.

Sincerely, Taylor's Teammates:

Gretchen Maskelt Amy Stone Chadie Wise
Laura Zetder Debra Sanders Patti Coon
Charlie Wise Marie Jennette Brendan
Corey