



Like most parents, we were concerned when our son, Shayne, transitioned from middle school to high school. The fact that he was entering a school as large as Preble had us worried that he would fall through the cracks. Our fear was compounded by Shayne's attunement to the social climate rather than the academics.

Thankfully, he had Ms. Barb Weisshappel his first year. She understood what it took to motivate him. Shayne enjoys having Ms. Weisshappel as a teacher even when she gets "crunchy" (her word for being upset). He understands the reason for it. Shayne knows that she only gets "crunchy" because she recognizes when he is not doing his best. Ms. Weisshappel is passionate about seeing her students succeed and will go to great lengths to ensure their success. For instance, how many teachers give you their phone numbers to discuss class after school hours? So, we were ecstatic to learn that she will be his teacher this year, too.

TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We were also thrilled that Shayne was assigned Mr. Jim Rutkowski as his IEP/Resource teacher. Mr. Rutkowski makes sure that Shayne stays current in his other classes. He understands Shayne's limitations, but still spurs him on to do his best. If Shayne is experiencing problems of any sort (not just academic), Mr. Rutkowski takes him aside and steers him in the right direction. Mr. Rutkowski knows that all students are unique individuals and does an exceptional job treating each student as such. Without a doubt, Mr. Rutkowski cares for his students and takes the time necessary to encourage them to be the best they can be.

We are doubly blessed to have Ms. Weisshappel and Mr. Rutkowski as Shayne's protégés. They are two outstanding teachers who go above and beyond what is required to make sure that every child gets the attention they need to be successful. They are just two of the many reasons that make Preble High School the fine educational facility that it is!

Mary E. Kirschling *Jim Rutkowski*



Barbara Weisshappel, James Rutkowski and Shayne Kirschling (Preble High School)

The Green Bay Education Association represents 1,800 Green Bay public school educators.

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