



Name: Alexia (Ali) Weimer

Content area(s) that you currently teach: Kindergarten

Employer: Marion School District, Avondale Elementary School

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Ali Weimer holds a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University at Jonesboro. She is currently a doctoral candidate in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment at Walden University.

Weimer has taught Kindergarten for eight years at Avondale Elementary School in the Marion School District. She is recognized for her authentic parental involvement strategies and her use of brain-based teaching techniques to increase student engagement.

Weimer is the 2013 Arkansas Teacher of the Year.

She is a 2014 Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes Fellow. She also is a SMART Exemplary Educator for her expertise in utilizing SMART products to increase student engagement. She has presented her authentic parental involvement strategies at the state and national levels.

Weimer is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, the Arkansas State Teachers Association, the National Network of State Teachers of the Year and is currently serving on the Board of Directors for Arkansas ASCD.

“No one cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.” – Theodore Roosevelt

The above quote is the heart and soul of Weimer's personal philosophy of teaching. It is her personal belief that before she can reach her students' heads, she has to touch their hearts. According to Weimer, "This is the only way that I can truly impact their lives; impact their lives in such a way that goes beyond teaching them their ABCs and 123s." Weimer believes that showing her students

tender love and care is the first thing that must happen before any good teaching and learning can take place in her classroom.

Weimer is available to speak, conduct workshops, and/or serve on committees around the following topics:

- Parental involvement
- Student engagement
- Creating a positive classroom community
- Teacher leadership
- Common Core
- Teacher evaluation