

Kendra K. Naef, CFCS
American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)
2007 National Teacher of the Year (T.O.Y.)

Kendra K. Naef, CFCS, an AAFCS member, is a family and consumer sciences teacher at Kimberly High School in Kimberly, Wisconsin, where she implements her award-winning P.A.R.T.N.E.R.S. program. Her program teams special education students with regular education 11th and 12th graders to develop positive social and academic relationships.

Since 2000, Naef has taught family and consumer sciences (FCS) in many areas, including foods and nutrition, child development, youth leadership, individual and family relationships, and brain development. She has also facilitated independent study opportunities for students in child care, teaching, leadership and advocacy, and early childhood curriculum development. In addition to teaching, Naef serves as the FCS content area facilitator for the Kimberly Area School District.

To effectively teach students in her P.A.R.T.N.E.R.S. program and classes, Naef received special training for working with students with autism spectrum disorders. She has also participated in extensive training in infant and toddler brain development. Her training in brain development led to the first course on this topic at Kimberly High School and the first Kimberly Area Brain Day, a collaborative effort between students in the brain development courses, the Kimberly and Little Chute Public Libraries, and the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families to educate the public about brain development.

Naef has been an active member of AAFCS and the Wisconsin Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (WAFCS) for ten years. Currently the WAFCS Region 3 president, Naef has served on numerous WAFCS committees and as WAFCS secretary and chair of the teacher section. Her other memberships include National Education Association, Family and Consumer Sciences Education Association, Wisconsin Family and Consumer Educators, Kappa Omicron Nu, and Association for Career and Technical Education. Well respected among her peers and students, Naef has been honored with the AAFCS New Achievers award and Milken Family Foundation National Educator award.

Alongside her students, she regularly offers service to the community through Salvation Army Bell Ringing, holiday gift wrapping, volunteering for Special Olympics, facilitating SibShops for the Fox Valley Sibling Support Network, and preparing apple pies annually for the KimCom PreAction Network Oktoberfest pie sale to benefit drug and alcohol prevention education programs in her school and community.

Naef is a resident of Appleton, Wisconsin, and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin - Stout. She is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in family and consumer sciences education from Iowa State University.