
TOP Early Learning Centers' Sierra Pieschl Named WSU 2022-23 Teacher of Promise

NEWS RELEASE

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Wichita, Kan. – TOP Early Learning Center North's Open Windows Learning Studio (OWLS) teacher Sierra Pieschl was recently named the WSU 2022-23 Teacher of Promise.

Pieschl began employment with TOP Early Learning Centers in 2014. She has worked at all three TOP schools and served as an assistant teacher, lead teacher and in her current role as studio coordinator. In her current position, she assists the children in learning through play and inquiry-based methods, fueling their creativity and scientific thinking.

"We are so proud to see Sierra recognized for her compassion, drive and talents. She is such an asset to TOP and the children we serve. She is definitely deserving of this award," said TOP Executive Director Cornelia Stevens.

Once a year, Kansas colleges and universities that offer teacher preparation programs are invited to select two teacher education students identified as Teachers of Promise to participate in a specific professional learning and recognition opportunity. There are 23 institutions of higher learning that offer teacher preparation programs.

According to the Kansas Department of Education website, Teachers of Promise are invited to attend a half-day workshop presented by the current Kansas Teacher of the Year Team, comprised of the Kansas Teacher of the Year and seven state finalists or Kansas Regional Teachers of the Year. They are also invited to attend the Kansas Teacher of the Year State Awards Banquet where they receive a certificate of recognition.

The Opportunity Project (TOP) is a 501c (3) charity based in Wichita, Kansas. TOP Early Learning Centers provide educational day care and preschool in some of Wichita's poorest areas – Oaklawn, Evergreen, and north central Wichita. Dedicated to creating school readiness for at-risk children, TOP's mission is to deliver a high-quality early learning experience to children living in poverty, providing them the tools needed for emotional, academic, and lifelong success.

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