

The Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District would like to recognize Mrs. Tami Ortega as a valuable member of our Marcum School Community. Tami has been both a dedicated teacher and an involved parent over the course of her 12 years here at Marcum.

As a teacher, Mrs. Ortega has touched so many of our Marcum students. When she started working at Marcum, she taught first grade, helping solidify the strong foundation we create in our Wildcats. When the Common Core was introduced, Mrs. Ortega transitioned up to third grade for a short time. Then, when the need for an 8th grade teacher arose here at Marcum, Tami stepped up to fill that spot and ensure that our 8th graders would have a great final year at Marcum would be prepared before heading off to high school. Regardless of the grade she is teaching, Mrs. Ortega has high expectations for her students, and does whatever it takes to ensure that her students are able to achieve great success.

Mrs. Ortega's contributions to Marcum don't stop with her own classroom of students. In addition to her role as a Teacher, Mrs. Ortega also does whatever she can to support the success of all of Marcum's students. She serves as the Student Body Teacher providing our students with opportunities to experience school leadership as well as helping to offer many fun and educational opportunities for all of our students through Student Body events. In addition, Mrs. Ortega is our GATE teacher and, in this role, she strives to create regular opportunities to engage and challenge our Gifted learners. She also regularly teaches Saturday School and provides math tutoring after school. All of these endeavors greatly impact the students at Marcum.

In addition to her contributions as a staff member, Mrs. Ortega is also a valuable former Marcum parent. Her two sons attended Marcum and while they were here, Tami was a very involved in activities that supported our school. She participated in Parents' Club and served as a Parents' Club officer. She also assisted with many of our school fundraisers. She has always been willing to help out in any way she could.

Mrs. Ortega is an exceptional example of someone who gives her all at her job and then gives some more. Her motivation has always been to help the students of Marcum and to provide them with not only the greatest education possible, but also with many amazing experiences. The Marcum Board, Staff, Students, and Community would like to thank you for all that you have done for the students of Marcum....past, present, and future.