



Congratulations to Redmond High School Chemistry teachers Kirby Zornes-Osborn and Brian Schnierer. They had 166 students taking the AP chemistry exam, and EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM passed!!! In fact, 46% of the students (76) received the highest score (5) and the school mean of 4.31 is a whole point higher than the national mean of 3.31.

Ms Zornes-Osborn was the Puget Sound Section's (PSS) 2018 HS Teacher of the Year. She also served on the PSS Education Committee. While Redmond High School has

had a long tradition of high standards in chemistry teaching and student success, the recent AP result is unprecedented. I asked Ms Zornes-Osborn to share her insights on the success of their program.

Of the 166 students over 50% are female, 26 students are non-native English speakers, and several receive other non-language special services. Ms Zornes-Osborn is also proud of their efforts to actively recruit students from underrepresented groups.

She attributes the success of the program to several factors. Both she and Mr. Schnierer had all the "regular" first year chemistry classes in 2022-2023 and worked hard to provide a solid foundation in chemistry, making it enjoyable for the students as well as rigorous. As a result of those efforts, over 50% of the students signed up for the AP chemistry class. She pointed out that the continuity and familiarity with the students from the first-year chemistry into the AP class made a big difference allowing them to build from the foundation class.

Another factor in their success is that Redmond High School has provided an optimal learning environment for student success. The daily schedule of modified block periods gives the students opportunity to meet with their teachers daily and to get time to understand and review and understand the concepts as well as larger time blocks for lab work. Redmond High also offers many different Chemistry options such as high school Chemistry, a more supportive high school chemistry class, Chemistry in the Earth Systems, and AP Chemistry to meet the needs of a diverse student population.

In addition to the AP exam, a large number (over 50) of the Redmond High students participate in the annual ACS Chemistry Olympiad as well.

Congratulations to all the students and teachers at Redmond High School.