

## AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY PUGET SOUND SECTION 2024 HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Brian Wikrent, Eastlake High School



Brian received his Bachelors of Chemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota. ('95) and his Masters of Education from the University of Minnesota('00). He taught in Minneapolis for 3 years ('00-'03), then moved to WA and have been teaching at Eastlake since. In 2007, he earned the National Board Certification with the advanced chemistry addition to start teaching AP chemistry which he has been doing since 2008. Brian said "I think chemistry the easiest science to teach because I can show them all kinds of neat reactions to excite them about it, except thermodynamics...it can't be helped.

Brian was nominated by his Associate Principal, Lowell Thompson, who had been a chemistry teacher himself for 27 years. According to Mr Thompson, in addition to his in-depth knowledge of chemistry, Brian has excellent teaching skills. He built the AP Chemistry program up at the school requiring the addition of a second AP Chemistry teacher. Brian took time to mentor the new teacher and he is always ready to support his colleagues by demonstrating his leadership in the field of chemistry teaching. His Associate Principal said that Brian's students absolutely LOVE him. They appreciate the constant support he provides. One of Brian's seniors is about to matriculate at UCLA to major in Chemistry. Here are their words about Mr. Wikrent: "I've always had an interest in chemistry and how the universe works but having Mr. Wikrent as my chemistry teacher has only grown that interest and willingness to learn exponentially."



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