

Mr. Reid, Through Our Eyes

By Samantha Prue and Jamie Freud



"You lose paper football and you clean my sink" (Mr. Reid). If you've ever sat in Mr. Reid's art class you would hear this just about everyday! Amherst Middle School students know that Mr. Reid is famous for his shiny sinks in the art room. Many students are up to the challenge to test their skill in paper football against Mr. Reid. However, they know all too well that the loser of a paper football match will result in the dirty job of washing out those sinks! Sadly, for the students at AMS, this year will be the last because Mr. Reid is retiring as art teacher.

Many know Mr. Reid as being a talented artist, but what many may fail to recognize is his unique and caring personality. Mr. Reid is without a doubt, a special teacher here at AMS and will be dearly missed. Students count on Mr. Reid planning an interesting unit for each grade level. Creating clay faces in the 5th grade along with making masks and designing anti-bullying posters in the sixth grade are some of the favorite units studied. Pastel designs in the 7th grade and creating 2D art and transforming it into 3D art is a unit the 8th graders greatly anticipate each year. It is because Mr. Reid respects and is supportive of his students' ideas, that they believe they are artists regardless of their artistic ability.

Mr. Reid strives for his students to be proud of their creations, and is always demonstrating to kids that art can be applied to anything in the real world. He says you just have to think things through. Mr. Reid's projects are usually open ended. He encourages and offers suggestions to students' ideas, but he pushes you to think outside the box, to create a piece of work that is self reflective. No matter what your artistic ability is, he believes that each piece of art has to reflect who you are as a person so that you will realize that you can create just about anything.

Mr. Reid will always be remembered at AMS for inspiring his students, sharing his love of art, and making us believe we are all artists. The kids here at AMS will miss you terribly, but wish you the best in your retirement. The sinks in the art room won't be as shiny without you here!