

Jami Schaffer, 5th & 6th Grade Social Studies

Background:

Mrs. Schaffer grew up on a ranch 30 miles north of Lusk, Wyoming & graduated from Niobrara County High School. She grew up on the ranch her great grandpa homesteaded. She has two brothers that live in Lusk & Van Tassel, Wyoming. Her sister lives on the family ranch. Her mother & father still live on the family ranch. She is married to Steve Schaffer & they have one son, Colton, who is in 2nd grade. Steve owns & operates Panhandle Trailer Service. Mrs. Schaffer began her career at Carver School in Cherry County, Nebraska. She taught there for one year before moving to Encampment, Wyoming where she taught for six years & coached several sports. She is in her 13th year at MES. Mrs. Schaffer holds a Bachelor's Degree from Chadron State with endorsements in elementary education & coaching. She received her Master's Degree from American College of Education with an endorsement in curriculum & instruction.

Why did you become a teacher?

"I became a teacher mainly because of my 4th grade teacher. She was very strict, but still had the respect of all the students. She was very enthusiastic about teaching history."

Who was the most influential person in your life?

"My mother. She is always positive and a solid Christian woman. I call her multiple times a week."

What event in your life had a huge impact on your being?

"Growing up on a ranch where a strong work ethic was quite evident in addition to growing up with Christian parents."

What is the most enjoyable thing about being a teacher?

"Building relationships & watching kids grow & achieve."

What do you like most about MES?

"The staff works well together & is very cohesive. It has a family-like atmosphere."

What are your hobbies?

"Anything outside - 4 wheelers, side by sides, fishing, gardening are some of my favorites. I like to read and spend time with my family. I like to refinish furniture in my spare time & love to drive the country back roads."

Where do you go to get your mind straight?

"My mom. I call her or go see her. She is my sounding board that always provides solid advice."

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment?

"Having & raising my son, Colton. Obtaining my Master's Degree."

If you could do anything else, what would that be?

"I would like to start a business refurbishing furniture."

What is something you would be willing to share about yourself that few know?

"I almost lost my leg when I was a sophomore in college. We were rounding up wild horses off of a neighbor's ranch. My horse & I got too close to one of the mares and she kicked my horse & me with both hind legs. My lower leg swelled up to the point that it was shutting off circulation to the rest of my leg & foot."

What is something on your bucket list?

"I would love to go to Pennsylvania to do the Civil War Tour. I would also like to travel to Alaska and Scotland."

Favorites:

Food: Kraut Nifla - German dish - kraut, balls of dough, & pork

Place to Eat: Texas Roadhouse, Sandy's Burritos, & Pizza Ranch

Music: Christian & Country Music

Color: Teal

Animal: Horses & Dogs

Book: Pride & Prejudice, Francine Rivers - Redeeming Love, Kate Quinn - WWII Books

Movie: Monty Python Holy Grail

Place: The Family Ranch, at home with family