

COLLEEN WHALEN

B I O

Arizona



Colleen Whalen has strived for athletic and academic excellence from an early age. A native of Huntington Beach, California, she was a three sport letterman at Marina High School. In her senior year, she was selected to play in the Orange County All-Star basketball game and ran hurdles in the state championships in CIF in 1990. Mrs. Whalen played her first two collegiate basketball seasons at Orange Coast Community College. In 1993, she was an all-state player and then was recruited to play basketball at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. Colleen finished her basketball career there competing in the 1995 NCAA tournament. Whalen was named captain of both college teams and had her jersey number retired the following year. Colleen is certified in multiple areas and was always willing to teach where needed. Regardless of if she was teaching English, social studies, or PE she has a positive impact on her department. Colleen understands that teaching is complex and that students will not show mastery of standards, unless she comes to know them as individuals. Putting this knowledge into action Colleen consistently has some of the highest achievement in our school. Due to this combination of Colleen being student oriented and achievement driven she has had multiple honors conveyed on her: Cardinals Most Valuable Teacher and Dysart Hero.

Colleen is a true teacher leader. This is evidenced by her tenure in Instructional Cabinet, serving on district curriculum committees for both social studies and physical education, being a peer mentor, social committee chair, and health and wellness champion. Colleen is truly the heart of the organization. Colleen realizes the power of synergy and working together.

Colleen also works to provide opportunities to students. She knows that when students are involved their success in school is more likely. For years Colleen was our National Junior Honor Society Sponsor, even when she stepped down she continued to mentor the new sponsor. In addition, Colleen seeing a need for our students to be more active bought fitness club to campus. In addition, when Colleen transferred to be Physical Education Chair she refined the way electives were run at Canyon in hopes of students being better prepared for high school and to provide them with choice. Colleen is forward thinking and innovative.

Currently she coaches Varsity Girls Tennis at Canyon View High School in Waddell, AZ.

“Stay humble, work hard, and be kind,” is the motto she lives by. Colleen Whalen has been married to her husband Tim for seventeen years and has two fantastic children; Liam, age fifteen and Molly, age twelve.

Colleen is excited to join Core Purpose Consulting Team of experts with the goal of getting as many students as possible healthy in all ways through movement, mindfulness, ability to forge through life skills, and set goals of healthy living.

