



**Idaho State
University**

**College of
Education**

**Education Appreciation Week Scholarship Recipient
Hailee Stotts**

1. What is your degree and emphasis area within teaching?

Elementary Education with an emphasis in Mathematics

2. What does receiving this award mean to you?

Receiving this award means the world to me! Teaching has been a dream of mine so to have others supporting this dream is so gratifying. I could not be more excited to begin this journey and to know that I am being supported along the way, really means so much to me!

3. How do you plan on utilizing the award?

Since I have just completed student teaching, I plan on utilizing this reward to help me prepare for my future classroom. Being a first-year teacher can be challenging and expensive, so this will help so much!

4. Why did you choose Idaho State University?

I chose Idaho State because I really liked the smaller, close-knit school. I grew up in a small town, so this was something that I was used to and enjoyed. I knew I would do better with the small class sizes and more individualized instruction and that is exactly what ISU gave me. In addition to being a smaller school, I had heard really good things about ISU's College of Education and the way that they prepared their students for their degrees.

5. How did ISU and the COE prepare you for your current role?

I feel that I am completely prepared for my future as an educator. ISU and the COE have not only prepared me with the knowledge to be a teacher but the experiences as well. I feel that I have learned so much in my two years through the College of Education and cannot wait to take what I have learned in my courses and in the classroom and implement everything into a classroom of my own!

6. What is one takeaway you have learned from your experience with the COE and ISU?

Ask questions- with your professors, peers, and cooperating teachers. Everyone is so willing to help answer your questions and prepare you for your future. Asking them can be intimidating at first, but you'll be glad you did. Not only can they help guide you, but they are great resources in the future if you have questions or need help. I could not have gotten through the program without everyone's help, they were definitely my support team.

7. What has been your favorite part about your experience in the College of Education?

Student teaching was the highlight of my two years, without a doubt. I loved this experience more than I ever thought I would! The whole experience was so rewarding! I was able to take everything that I had learned in college courses and other classrooms and put it into action. I loved getting to spend so much time with my 2nd graders, both teaching them and learning from them! I could not have asked for a better group of students or cooperating teacher to end my time at Idaho State and really prepare me for my future.

8. What advice do you have for current students in the COE?

Get as much classroom experience as possible and really make the most out of your time in them. Take notes on the things different cooperating teachers do that you like/dislike. You might think, I don't need to write it down, I'll remember it, but just write it down anyway. With as many classrooms as you'll be in, it might be hard to remember everything. Also, don't be afraid to ask questions! At first, I felt nervous asking questions, but teachers love to help and have such valuable advice! There are conversations that I had with teachers that really resonated with me, that I have taken into consideration with my own teaching. Don't just go into the classrooms, get your hours, and get out. Make the most out of it!