

Portraits of Success, 2007

Name: Steve Fosdick
Title: Teaching Principal, Red Rock School
District: Mojave Unified School District

Mr. Fosdick has been Red Rock principal and teacher for the CDS program for at least seven years. He always says our district goal should be to put him out of business. This reflects his attitude towards kids. He puts them before himself. When I first came to Mojave USD, he came to me in the summer and asked if I could assign to him a particular student that had been expelled, but had not been placed at Red Rock. I remember the student had a lot of “rough” history. Steve said he thought he could make a difference for this student. I can’t remember any administrator in my career ever asking to take such a student. Steve Fosdick does not reach every student, but he has reached many by improving their reading and math skills and giving them hope and a great sense of worth. On one particular visit to his program, Steve introduced me to a student that we had expelled and placed at Red Rock School. The student had written some beautiful poetry and offered to share it with me. It was excellent.

Over the years I have had some parents that absolutely did not want their child to be placed at Red Rock School. Some called it a “prison.” None of this was based on experience. Some of those same parents requested later that their child be allowed to stay because of the success of their child and Mr. Fosdick. We would have to explain that we could not always do this. The parents were not always happy that their child could not stay, but this has been a nice problem to have. Steve has a very structured program. Students are on task 100% of the time. Students are safe in the care of a very caring leader.

I recommend Mr. Steve Fosdick highly and without any reservation. He is among our very best educators. I know of none better.