

Ramona Welch

by Kenzie Rader

Student - money winner
Jim Satterfield Middle School
Trousdale County

Throughout my nine years of school I have had many teachers in the Trousdale County school system. There is one employee, in particular, that I have had a bond with since my seventh grade year. That person would be our school's guidance counselor, Mrs. Ramona Welch. She has made the biggest impact on my life more than anyone can imagine.

During my seventh grade year, my life took some extreme, unexpected turns. I did not know who to turn to for guidance and help, until the idea of going to Mrs. Welch's office occurred to me. I can hardly remember the first time I entered her office, but I remember crying and trying to explain to her what was going on. I've been to her office at least fifty times, literally, so I can barely remember most of the visits. I do remember; however, how much of an impact each one of them had on me, and there are some I will never forget.

There was not a single time I've been to Mrs. Welch's office that she hasn't listened to everything I had to say. She always believed me and believed in me when no one else did. Every time I have gone in there, she could calm me down no matter how upset or frustrated I was. Last year, she backed me up every time I needed help with something crucial. She was the only adult figure I had to talk to and her advice was always somewhat helpful in every hopeless situation.

Recently, something crazy and unbearable came up in my life and I had no idea how to handle it. Mrs. Welch had signed me up for group therapy in our school, and I revealed all my issues there a couple weeks ago. That truly was my only option. As soon as I got out of group therapy, I was sent to Mrs. Welch. She literally took care of everything. I honestly don't know what I would have done if she didn't help me through everything.

Ever since Mrs. Welch helped me through my dilemma, I have had a smile on my face. I thought that there was only one way out, which was the wrong way. Mrs. Welch showed me that there was hope. I cannot express how much she has affected my outlook on life. She changed the course of my life, and if it wasn't for her, I might not be here right now. Mrs. Welch literally saved my life.



Trousdale Co. Superintendent Clint Satterfield, Ramona Welch, Kenzie Rader, Dr. Dan Tollett, Utrust Administrator and Principal,