



RICHARDSON ISD

## PERSONNEL AND DISTRICT AWARDS



### Showcasing Success

Eric Triche

Jess Harben Elementary



The Stranger from Louisiana

Eric Triche, sixth-grade teacher at Jess Harben Elementary, has many reasons to love teaching. He enjoys the strong connection with his students and greets each child with a smile every day. He enjoys watching his students shine as they succeed or try even harder when they don't.

A lifelong resident of Louisiana, a graduate of LSU and a diehard LSU Tiger's fan, Eric made long arduous trips to several different school districts until he found the place where he felt he belonged. Finally reaching the RISD and Jess Harben Elementary, the "stranger" from Louisiana discovered his new home. "I could not be in a better situation for a first year teacher. Not only am I strongly supported by the school, but I can feel such strong support from the parents, community, and the district as a whole," said Eric.

Keith Forte, Jess Harben principal, believes that Eric has created an organized and inviting classroom for all his students. "There are slogans and sayings

painted on the walls. Students are eager to come to class each day, anticipating a day filled with innovative activities that promote their learning. Mr. Forte said, "During camp this year, many students would struggle to be with him and be part of his team, while the principal was left with no one!"

Why is he a stranger? Mr. Triche explains that since he lived in Louisiana his entire life, he told his class that he was an alien, meaning "not from around here". Believing him, the students began a collection of extra terrestrials that now live on his desk.

*This article can be found online at*

<http://www.risd.org/DistrictNews/Awards/showcasing/Spring02/triche.htm>