

James Sfayer

Colts Neck High School, Colts Neck, NJ

Applied Fields Education

9th-12th Grades, Navy Junior ROTC Program



2005 Honorees



“I am fortunate to be teaching a curriculum that allows creativity in testing. While I still conduct traditional testing, it is never a substitute for student performance throughout the curriculum and in a variety of situations. Performance testing works extremely well with our 30 special education students who

have myriad of academic challenges to overcome... The Navy Junior Reserve Officer’s Training (JROTC) Program provides our special education students a home where they can immediately feel comfortable and safe. I also provide them with student leaders to provide support and assistance throughout their high school years.”

“I evaluate the ‘total student’ and their ability to contribute to the accomplishment of their personal mission and the mission of the Navy JROTC Program. I develop this sense of ‘mission’ by having them prepare personal mission statements that the students use to guide their daily activities and to help prepare them for the future. I evaluate their ability to stay on mission and to focus on the important things in life. I have the luxury of teaching our students the skills that will linger long after their memories of high school have faded... Students are traditionally prepared for college and yet many of our students enter the work force, enter the military or pursue vocational education. I train them for life by teaching

them character and leadership, and evaluate them based on their performance in these two most important and often neglected areas.”

– Lt. Colonel James S. Sfayer USMC (Ret.), Senior Naval Science Instructor

“I have had the pleasure and honor of working with Lieutenant Colonel James Sfayer for the past three years. Most students would never have the opportunity to work with a teacher such as Lt. Col. Sfayer. He exemplifies ideals of what makes a teacher great. Excellence is an initiative not in which he preaches to his students but it is what he envelopes himself around everyday. His commitment to this is evident in the energy that he puts into any challenge... The Colonel always said that the core of cadets at Colts Neck High School is only an extension of his own family. For three years I have been witness to just that.” – Current student

Other Highlights:

Top instructor, United States Military Academy (1987) (First Marine Corps officer selected)

New York Post Top 200 Teachers (2001)

Member, Marine Corps League

Board member, Waterhouse Marine Corps Museum

Member, Colt Neck Education Foundation

Member, Association for Supervision and Curriculum and Development

Retired from the Marine Corps in 1994

Years Teaching: 11

Average Class Size: 28

Classes Taught Per Day: 6

School’s Percent of ESL Students: 10

School Type: Public, Suburban

Type of Class: Self-contained