



Erin Garrity-Duffey **2021 Art Education Administrator of the Year**

Erin Garrity-Duffey, an art educator and administrator for Township High School District 211, has dedicated herself to cultivating a department where students and teachers can be their most authentic selves. She is in her 17th year teaching and 5th year as the Art Department Chair. Her pedagogy focuses on SEL awareness for her staff and students through supporting the needs and global ideas of a diverse school population. She is motivated to create a curriculum that emphasizes inclusive practices while also amplifying the voices of underrepresented artists and abilities.

In and out of the classroom she is an advocate for students and works to create an environment of growth and trust. Her contributions to the art programming in Township High School District 211 have resulted in the inclusion of STEAM, Graphic Design Production, and restructuring of course flow making more courses available to incoming freshman.

As an Administrator Erin works to support her department's collective vision. Their community work increased student enrollment in their programming over 38% in a four-year period. Resulting in the additional hiring of 1.5 art educators. Art advocacy work is at the heart of Conant Art Department's mission and is reflected in Erin's leadership at the district, state, and national level.

Professional service and leadership are also central to Erin's contributions. She has mentored new teachers, presented on various platforms, and led district wide professional development on best practices. She serves on Conant's Equity Committee and has been instrumental in progressing equity education and awareness to staff.

Erin is a practicing artist (@egarrityduffy), proud mom of two inquisitive children, and a graduate of The Art Institute of Chicago. She is humbled and honored to have been recognized for this award, and sees this accomplishment not earned alone, but in partnership with her department and school administration.

[Erin Garrity-Duffey Photo](#)