

## Leader Among Us: Leadership goes beyond classroom walls

Written by Darci Tomky

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When the Emerald Awards were first conceived four years ago, the Leader Among Us was defined as someone who provides excellent leadership in their school building, with a team, on a special project or through a wealth of service to the district.

Angie Powell demonstrates leadership in all of those areas and is a deserving recipient of the 2014 Leader Among Us award.

“From the classroom to staff meetings and committees, Angie is a true example of a leader,” said Heather Bieber, Powell’s English department colleague and Emerald Award nominator.

Powell is an English and language arts teacher at Holyoke High School, but her leadership extends far beyond the walls of her classroom. She is also the JR/SR High Response to Intervention coordinator, district Leadership Team chairperson, the HHS National Honor Society sponsor and an all-around “go-to girl” in the school.



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**Holyoke JR/SR High English teacher Angie Powell, pictured at right, connects with Edwin Cruz d**

**—Enterprise photo**

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### **Powell leads students to success**

Powell serves as a member on the Positive Behavior Support Team, which has evolved to include not only behavior support for students, but academic support as well. When it came time for PBS positions to be filled, Powell was up for the challenge of the new Response to Intervention coordinator.

Nominator Ashley Clayton said the RTI position took a lot of extra time and effort on Powell's part, but she has never been negative about it. "This is one reason she is such a good leader," said Clayton. "She is able to take on a challenge and maintain a positive attitude throughout."

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