Hope Cahill
6th Grade Science Teacher
El Dorado Community School, Santa Fe

Hope Cahill began as a Language Arts and Creative Writing teacher. Since 2012, she has been a science teacher for 6th and 7th grades at El Dorado Community School in Santa Fe, who occasionally picks up a section of language arts.

She has fostered connections between the NM content standards and curriculum and New Mexico’s rich geologic and scientific history. She has integrated literacy and technology into her instruction and has created curriculum that accommodates a variety of abilities and learners within the classroom setting. She authored the article “Place-Based Educational Activities Inspired by the Socorro Magma Body” in the Summer 2021 issue of The Earth Scientist, a quarterly journal of the National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA).

Over the years she has assumed additional responsibilities, including the remote-learning Science Design Team, Middle School Science Fair Coordinator, Global Warming Express mentor, Mentor for Santa Fe High School Supercomputing Challenge team, and STEM Pathways for Girls Conference planning committee and group guide.

She is a 2020 recipient of the “Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science Teaching” and a 2021 recipient of the “Partners in Education Teachers Who Inspire” Award. She was a Thornburg Corporate Giving Program grant recipient in 2021.

One of her nominators, a former Assistant Principal said:

“One of Ms. Cahill’s biggest strengths as a teacher is that her genuine love of science is felt by her students. She exhibits a deep passion for science teaching and learning and cares deeply about her students. She never stops creating and sharing her expertise with her students and her community. As an outreach project, Ms. Cahill worked with Tesuque Pueblo to share resources and information. And she is working toward El Dorado becoming a pilot site for a project based solar technology education program. From a parent’s perspective, I was incredibly lucky to have my own middle school daughter in Ms. Cahill’s science class. After 2 years in Ms. Cahill’s class, my daughter left as a confident science student and has pursued science beyond middle school.

I cannot think of anyone more deserving of the Outstanding NM science teacher award than Ms. Cahill. She has endless energy and drive to make the world a better place through her gifts as a science educator.”