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Teacher of the Year EU-East District 2017

A genuine 'teacher of DoDEA', Richard Dysinger has spent every minute of his career in a DOD classroom from substitute and student teaching to classroom and specialist work across two theaters. Currently a fifth-grade instructor at Ramstein Intermediate in Kaiserslautern, Germany, Rich spent two years supporting the military community in Heidelberg at Patrick Henry Elementary and five years as a classroom teacher and Educational Technologist at Matthew C. Perry Elementary in Iwakuni, Japan, his adopted hometown.

Dr. Dysinger holds a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology with a biological emphasis from the University of California at Davis, which is his go-to Jeopardy category. He also holds a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Plymouth State University (Go Panthers!), and a second Master's Degree in Educational Technology from San Diego State University (Go Aztecs Warriors!). Recently Rich was awarded a Doctorate of Education from Durham University in the United Kingdom in Applied Educational Research with a technology focus.

With a preference for social learning, Dr. Dysinger believes that the focus of our instructional efforts must be to promote and nurture critical thinking skills through open discussions and peer collaboration. Educators should also strive to create a risk-taking environment where kids view failure or mistakes as a vital component of the journey rather than an endpoint.

A proud father of an active five-year-old named Logan, Rich love/hates the gym and has a passion for writing of all styles, including internet bios. With his wife Billie, a fellow teacher, they appreciate live music, travel, and spending time with their extended DoDDs family.



Richard Dysinger, Ed.D. <u>Ramstein IS</u> 5th Grade Teacher

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