

**2019 New Mexico Academy of Science Outstanding Science Teacher Awardee
Mark Walker, Early College Academy & Career Enrichment Center**

Mark Walker is from the Early College Academy and Career Enrichment Center. He has been teaching for 18 years and currently teaches Biology and Forensic Science to grades 9-12.

For many years, Mr. Walker has been a mentor to students participating in the Junior Academy of Science, many of whom have won awards. Mr. Walker's nomination actually came from 4 of his students. One of them wrote the following: "Mr. Walker is an excellent mentor for his students; his ability to keep labs, lectures, quizzes, and even tests entertaining keeps the students engaged and helps them to process the information faster and easier. His love for science and teaching are shown in his passion to help students grow an understanding and love for science themselves. He is a compassionate and charismatic teacher who cares about the well being of his students. Mr. walker has been the best teacher that I have ever had."

Ms. Rebecca Florienz, Vice Principal of the Early College Academy accepted the award at the ceremony for Mr. Walker who unfortunately could not attend.