

## 2022 OUTSTANDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Jerome Mick is the Information Technology program instructor at Clearfield County Career and Technology Center. He brings smiles, high energy, joy, and positive interactions to his students. In Mr. Mick's classroom, all students are able, not disabled – all students set goals and complete tasks and earn industry certifications. Mr. Mick has students who have specific learning disabilities, other health impairments, and who are blind or visually impaired. They are all included.

Mr. Mick believes that all students can be amazing and achieve their goals, but sometimes those students just need a little bit of encouragement. He stands outside of his classroom and encourages every student in the school to do their best. He inspires his peers to be driven and positive and look for the good in all students.

Three years ago, a student who is blind enrolled in the Information Technology program. The student needed many adaptations in order to meet the demands of the program. With assistance and training, the student participated in SkillsUSA and placed at the district level, earned an industry certification, and made a presentation to local superintendents. A second visually impaired student met and exceeded all expectations, competed in SkillsUSA at the state level, is a member of the CCCTC Cyber Security Team, and is serving as an advanced placement Cooperative Education student/employee. These students are encouraged daily to know they are valued and can work in the information technology field. Fred Redden, Executive Director at Clearfield County CTC, said, "Mr. Mick does great things daily and is often overlooked because his modest approach is about celebrating the success of the students."

*Jerome was nominated by Jessica McKendrick, School Counselor, Clearfield County CTC.*



Pictured from left to right:  
Tiffany Cover, Principal; Jessica  
McKendrick, School Counselor;  
Jerome Mick, 2022 Outstanding  
Career and Technical Education  
Special Needs Teacher of the Year  
and Information Technology Instructor;  
and Fred Redden, Executive Director