Mrs. Amy Cheresnowsky

My education is rooted in the state of the Pennsylvania. From receiving my undergraduate degree from Mansfield University to pursuing two Masters degrees from the University of Scranton (receiving the Outstanding Achievement award upon graduation) I have been enriched in the vast knowledge of educators that hold the standards and rigor of the Pennsylvania education close to their hearts. I received my Bachelors in Secondary Education with a concentration in Social Studies from Mansfield University in 2004 and later received my first Masters in Curriculum and Instruction in 2009 and my second Masters Degree in 2011 in Educational Administration from the University of Scranton.

I have worked in the public education setting for the Athens Area School District for the past twelve years in northeastern Pennsylvania. I have also had the opportunity to teach online for K12 Education for five years and currently teach graduate courses for Penn State University as an adjunct professor since 2010. My range of teaching Social Studies over the course of my career has included teaching various sections of American History and World History to Economics and Civics/Government. My passion has always been Social Studies and I have been motivated as a teacher to help “bring history to life” for my students over the course of my career.

I have received various awards and recognitions for my achievements in Social Studies education including the Cohen-Jordan Award, Teacher-to-Teacher Networking Grant, Outstanding Secondary Social Studies Teacher Award for PA, Clara Isaacman Award for teaching the Holocaust, and Population Educator Facilitator grant. I also was a participant with the Teaching American History grant (TAH) for three consecutive years with IU 17. However, one of my proudest moments is my recent election to the Pennsylvania Council to Social Studies. Having an opportunity to make decisions and help with the direction of social studies education across the state has been a remarkable experience. The knowledge and expertise I have had the opportunity to work with and mentor under drives me in the classroom and continues to motivate my desire to “bring history to life”.

The direction I would like to see Social Studies education in the state of Pennsylvania is by becoming a more integral part in all grades levels across the state. Unfortunately, Social Studies is becoming more and more a second thought after state tested content such as Math or Reading. Teachers in the elementary grade levels are lacking curriculums, standards, support, and the know-how to approach Social Studies education. I would like to see this changed. As the President elect for the PCSS I would like to see our board push for social studies implementation in the elementary grade levels. I would also like to see a more nonlinguistic, hands-on approach to teaching social studies in the secondary grade levels. I feel it is our responsibility as a board and leaders in education to provide resources and professional development to educators across the state.

Working closely with the board and current/past leaders of the PCSS I feel it is possible for our organization to become more actively involved in the classrooms across the state. I will bring my passion for education and love for Social Studies with me if elected as a future president for PCSS.