

## **MONTANA RURAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2025**

### **Seth Coombe: Biography – Teacher of the Year**

Seth Coombe is an accomplished educator, community leader, and devoted mother and grandmother with a passion for service and lifelong learning. Throughout her life, she has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to supporting both her family and her community while excelling in her career.

Growing up, Seth was actively involved in a variety of clubs and service projects during her high school years, and she graduated with honors. Her dedication to academics carried over into her college years, where she met her husband, Michael, at an orientation at MT. Tech. After a year at MT. Tech, she transferred to the University of Montana Western, where she graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in education, specializing in reading. Throughout her academic journey, Seth's dedication to excellence was clear, and she later went to complete a minor in Special Education while teaching.

Seth's professional career spans nearly two decades, having taught for 19 years in both special education and general education. For eight years, she worked in special Education, and for the past 11 years, she has taught kindergarten students. In addition to her classroom work, Seth has served as the supervising teacher at Cardwell School for the past 11 years, shaping the next generation of educators.

Her commitment to her community is equally evident. Over the years, Seth has contributed her time and talents to a variety of local programs and organizations. She has coached and served on the board of the Whitehall Baseball and Soccer Leagues, ran the flag football program, and worked as a district organizer for the Exchange Student Program in her area.

Seth's personal life is just as rich and fulfilling as her professional endeavors. She and her husband, Michael, have been married for 21 years and are the proud parents of four children: Frank (28), Avrey (20), Gavyn (15) and Emalynn (13). In addition to her role as a mother, Seth is a Bomma to two young grandsons, age 4 and 2.

Through her career and her personal life, Seth Coombe exemplifies the values of hard work, dedication, and service to others. Her lifelong commitment to education and community has made a lasting impact on everyone she meets.