As a Millersville University alumni, Dr. Dan Daneker ’88 can directly link his time at the University with the success he’s had in his career. “I use the concepts taught in my MU classes everyday as a subject area supervisor for Conestoga Valley School District (CVSD),” he says.

The Millersville University alumni and current adjunct professor is being recognized for his role as Supervisor of the Science and Technology Education departments at CVSD. Daneker is the recipient of the 2020 Outstanding Administrative Support Award from the National Science Education Leadership Association (NSELA), which was formed in 1959 to support leadership in the field of science education. The association’s Outstanding Administrative Support Award honors an administrator deemed to show outstanding support for science education in the k-12 system.

At CVSD, Daneker and his staff are responsible for acquiring $500,000 in grants to support the district over the last decade. He prioritizes the empowerment of his teachers to make a positive impact in the classroom.

“With the empowerment of teachers, it is hoped that they, in turn, will empower the students to make a real difference in our school, community, and even the world,” he says.

This lesson was instilled in him at a young age, when he first chose Millersville to pursue his education. He selected it because it was one of the only state institutions which provided a degree in biological oceanography. He began working towards his degree in 1983. In 1985, Daneker switched his degree to secondary earth science education, eventually adding a certification in biology in 1986.

Alongside his academic pursuits, he also played as a bass drummer for the Millersville University marching band and indoor percussion for two seasons.

Prior to finishing his degree, Daneker student taught at Conestoga Valley and eventually took a position with the district. Daneker then went on to complete a master’s degree at Kutztown University and moved into his current position at CVSD in 2006. He finalized his dissertation at Immaculata University in 2015.

As a supervisor, Daneker overviews instruction and helps the teachers in the science and technology education department refine and develop course curriculum. When needed, he also teaches courses at CVSD and often teaches University-level courses at Millersville and Eastern Mennonite University as an adjunct professor.