The 2016 recipient of the NYS AHPERD Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award is Tara Nelsen. Tara has been a health and physical education teacher in the Lawrence Public Schools for the past 13 years. She employs a wide variety of teaching methodologies and strategies to provide the best opportunity for all of her students to succeed. Her daily lessons include a fitness warmup or instant activity, measurable objectives, followed by an anticipatory set to engage the learner’s attention, teaching and learning tasks and closure that allows students to verbalize and demonstrate their learning. She uses technology in the gymnasium to record students during skills practice and students are able to describe where they excelled during an activity and point out areas that need improvement. These videotapes and discussions have improved student outcomes and performances. Tara is an active member of NYS AHPERD. She is currently serving as the Nassau Zone President, her second time in the position. She is member of the outstanding high school physical education student awards committee, the Get Moving NY committee and the Zone conference committee. She has presented at national, district, state and Zone conferences. Tara was honored with the Nassau Zone Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award, the Nassau Zone Service Award and both the Nassau Zone and Elementary/ Middle School Physical Education Section Amazing Person Award. Tara’s colleague said, “Tara is patient, caring and clearly sets up an environment that is inclusive for every child. Her lessons are developmentally appropriate and her focus is on the fundamentals and exploration of movement concepts preparing her students for a lifetime of physical activity.” President Rose, it is my honor to present to you the recipient of the 2016 Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award, Tara Nelsen.