The 2017 recipient of the NYS AHPERD Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award is Shelly Connors.

Shelly has been a physical education teacher for 20 years and with the Auburn Enlarged City School District for the last 16. She was instrumental in developing Auburn’s Adventure Education curriculum. Her leadership in this area has led to a series of four Adventure Education courses which begin with an introduction, then a focus on fitness, onto social emotional growth and finally student driven adventure education. Through these courses students are able to meet state and national standards and also develop 21st century learning skills. Shelly believes in guided discovery enabling her students to find their own path towards collaboration and success. In service to NYS AHPERD, Shelly has served as president of the Central North Zone, served on the Bernard E. Hughes Awards Committee, Membership Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee, president of the NYS Secondary Section, co-chair the annual 5K Race, and initiated the Sensational Secondary presentation series. She was honored with several Central North Zone awards, including the Cheri Stevens Award, Secondary Teacher of the Year Award, and their Amazing Person Award. Shelly was also recognized as the NYS AHPERD Secondary Physical Education Amazing Person. Her principal states, “The most endearing quality about Shelly is the passion she shares for physical fitness and healthy living. Not only does she seek out ways for others to embrace healthy lifestyles, she recognizes the value of a positive attitude. Shelly models the belief that if you think you can be successful, you will be.” President Wolfe, it is my honor to present to you the recipient of the 2017 Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award, Shelly Connors.