

## **Erin A. — Physical Therapist**

*River Ridge Middle School*

*River Ridge School District*

Healthcare Hero

Ever since my aunt was in an accident, I have wanted to help people. At first, I wanted to be a surgeon but recently I changed my mind. I decided that I wanted to be a physical therapist because I have always loved the healthcare business and I made the decision that I wanted to be a part of it. Another thing I want to do while I'm helping people is to build up relationships with them. I know the job is definitely going to be a challenge but I'm up for it.

I know a lot of people that think they want to be in healthcare because you make a lot of money, but for me, it isn't about the money, it's about the people. I always have tried to solve problems, and while I'm working I can talk to people and possibly solve their problems. I'm really passionate about being a physical therapist because I want to make a difference and I hope all people can find jobs that they are passionate about too.

I look up to my godmother, my aunt, and my mom because they are all strong women and I want to be just like them. They may not be in healthcare but they all have great jobs and are living a happy life. To me, it seems like they have my dream life. I also look up to all the healthcare heroes out there right now since it has been a really rough year. I know that this job can be very emotional at times because people come and go but all along you are just living your life and learning a lesson. I really think that life is a roller coaster and that your job is just a big part of it.

Another thing this job can be is stressful, you have to deal with a lot of people. Some can be nice and some can be mean. I mean I've met mean people in my life but PT's will meet some people that were just in an accident and are really mad about it so they take it out on you. You also will have to do a lot of paperwork after your 10-12 hour day! Wow, but that is what I want to do and I am really excited to do it. A bonus is that you have to go through a lot of school to be in healthcare and I am a dedicated student at school, so PT's of the world here I come!

In all I think that this job is the one for me. I have been learning about healthcare workers for a while now and I can't wait until I get to be a part of that team. I have even gone to a career website and took some quizzes. My results were all in healthcare and one of my top choices was a physical therapist! I guess it's meant to be.