



NEWS RELEASE

Wayne Township Board of Education

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For Immediate Release

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BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZES 2020-2021 GOVERNOR'S EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

(Wayne, New Jersey) – The Wayne Board of Education proudly recognized the Governor's Educator of the Year at the February 25th regular meeting. A total of 30 educators were recognized by Assistant Superintendent, Donna Reichman. In recognizing the teachers, Mrs. Reichman said, "Congratulations to all of our winners for their commitment and dedication to our students and the Wayne school community. Each day you inspire our students with your innovative practices, kindness and care. The outstanding work you do to support our students teaches them some of the most important lessons in life and helps shape their future."

The New Jersey Department of Education recognizes the outstanding contributions of educators in a variety of ways. One program is the Governor's Educator of the Year (GEOY) Program, which recognizes the hard work of outstanding teachers and educational services professionals.

After school level nominations were received, each of the Wayne Township Public Schools convened a committee to select one teacher and one educational services professional under the program guidelines. In the coming months, each of the educators selected locally may move on for recognition at the county, and potentially as candidates for state educator of the year.

The Governor's Educator of the Year program is designed to highlight educational innovation, student achievement, the rewards of teaching, and the important services outside the classroom environment that lead to student success. The celebratory program integrates the Teacher of the Year Program with the Governor's Teacher/Educational Services Professional Recognition Program to continue to recognize our state's best teachers and educational services professionals.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mark Toback noted, "This year is one like no other and every educator was put to the test. Congratulations to all of our Educators of the Year for excelling, even under very difficult circumstances. The community is blessed with many excellent educators and we thank all of our teachers and educational support professionals for their dedication to their students and community."

Please join our district in congratulating the following Teachers of the Year and Educational Services Professionals who are recipients of this award from each of our 15 schools.

[Click here to read a bio on every recipient and to watch the video shown at the BOE Meeting on February 25, 2021.](#)

School	Teacher	Education Specialist
Early Childhood Center	Andrea Gilman Preschool Teacher	Cynthia Carey Speech Language Specialist
APT Elementary School	Samara Bonar Grade 2 Teacher	Margarita Carruthers Media Specialist
James Fallon Elementary School	Michele Thomas Grade 1 Teacher	Joe Hicswa Media Specialist
John F. Kennedy Elementary School	Jennifer Shea Grade 3 Teacher	Maureen Kelly Speech Language Specialist
Lafayette Elementary School	Rani Patel Grade 4 Teacher	Elizabeth Venezia Basic Skills Teacher
Packanack Elementary School	Jenna Furfaro Grade 1 Teacher	Dana DiMenna Basic Skills Teacher
Pines Lake Elementary School	Maryann Carroll Grade 2 Teacher	Cathy Fredericks Speech Language Specialist
Randall Carter Elementary School	Alexis Scheck Grade 5 Teacher	Kimberly Depetris School Nurse
Ryerson Elementary School	Laurie Collins Special Ed. Teacher	Katie Sanders Paraprofessional
Theunis Dey Elementary School	Lauren Pici-Mahmudi Grade 3 Teacher	Keri DelloBuono Media Specialist
Anthony Wayne Middle School	Nicole Marquez ELA Teacher	Chris Vacca Speech Language Specialist
George Washington Middle School	Carolyn Leibowitz ELA Teacher	Margaret Serek School Nurse
Schuyler-Colfax Middle School	Jennifer Burton ELA Teacher	Laura Healy Media Specialist
Wayne Hills High School	Donna Del Moro English Teacher	Bruce Keogh Guidance Counselor
Wayne Valley High School	Dorian Aimi Business Teacher	Barbara Bardi Media Specialist

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