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New Jersey Department of Education Announces 2022-2023 County Teachers of the Year

Trenton, NJ – The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) today announced the 21 educators who have been named the state’s 2022-2023 County Teachers of the Year.

“These 21 educators are exemplary models of the kinds of dynamic teaching that takes place in New Jersey’s classrooms,” said **Governor Phil Murphy**. “The quality of our schools is driven in no small part through the strength of our teaching workforce, represented by these County Teachers of the Year. It’s no wonder New Jersey public schools are among the best in the nation.”

“Today we recognize the next cohort 21 County Teachers of the Year for their dedication, effort, and service. Educators have a profound and lifelong impact through their ability to ignite the minds of young people,” said Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillian, Acting Education Commissioner. “Their work contributes to the success of their students in the classroom and into adulthood. Congratulations to all of our 2022-2023 County Teachers of the Year!”

The County Teachers of the Year will network with educators throughout the state and serve as ambassadors for New Jersey’s public schools during the upcoming school year.

A panel of educators will select the New Jersey State Teacher of the Year from among the 21 County Teachers of the Year based on written applications, video submissions, and interviews with the top finalists. The New Jersey State Teacher of the Year is typically announced at the State Board of Education’s October meeting and will go on to represent New Jersey in competing for the title of National Teacher of the Year.

Individual schools nominate exceptional educators for County Teacher of the Year through the Governor’s Educator of the Year Program, which promotes a positive school culture by acknowledging the hard work and dedication of outstanding teachers and educational services professionals. More information is available on the [Governor’s Educator of the Year Program](#) webpage.

New Jersey's 2022-2023 County Teachers of the Year

County	Name	Position	School	School District
Atlantic	Brenna Baker	Biology Teacher	Absegami High School	Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District
Bergen	Gina DiMaggio	English Teacher	Lyndhurst High School	Lyndhurst School District
Burlington	Sarah Sherman	English Teacher	Rancocas Valley Regional High School	Rancocas Valley Regional High School District
Camden	Michael Wepler	Mathematics Teacher	Winslow Township Middle School	Winslow Township School District
Cape May	Stephen Serano	Culinary Arts Teacher	Wildwood High School	Wildwood School District

County	Name	Position	School	School District
Cumberland	Jennifer Carbone	Science Teacher	ExCEL Program	Bridgeton Public School District
Essex	Kristen Dunleavy	Special Education Teacher	Redwood Elementary School	West Orange School District
Gloucester	Lisa Dolby	English Teacher and Teacher of Students with Disabilities	Delsea Regional High School	Delsea Regional School District
Hudson	Ariel Babcock	Social Studies Teacher & Media Specialist	Weehawken High School	Weehawken Township School District
Hunterdon	Brian Smith	English Teacher	Delaware Valley Regional High School	Delaware Valley Regional School District
Mercer	Leigh Cline	Second Grade Teacher	Parkway Elementary School	Ewing Township School District
Middlesex	Leana Malinowsky	Second Grade Teacher	Private Nicholas Minue School	Carteret School District
Monmouth	Kimberly Grigoli	Kindergarten Teacher	Spring Lake Heights Elementary School	Spring Lake Heights School District
Morris	Andrea Ritacco	Business Education Teacher	Whippany Park High School	Hanover Park Regional High School District
Ocean	Christine Girtain	Science Teacher & Director of Authentic Science Research	Toms River High School North & South	Toms River Regional School District
Passaic	Emily Blumberg	Science Teacher	Passaic Preparatory Academy	Passaic School District
Salem	Erika Knorr	Kindergarten Teacher	Elmer Elementary School	Pittsgrove Township School District
Somerset	Ian Evans	English Language Arts Teacher	Hillsborough Middle School	Hillsborough Township School District
Sussex	Christine O'Brien-Mase	Art and Photography Teacher	Sparta High School	Sparta School District
Union	Candice Testa	First Grade Teacher	William J. McGinn Elementary School	Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District
Warren	Daryl Detrick	Computer Science Teacher	Warren Hills Regional High School	Warren Hills Regional School District



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