



PAYMON ROUHANIFARD
SUPERINTENDENT

CAMDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Honors Educators of the Year

Forty-two educators receive honors from students, Superintendent

Friday, March 3, 2017 – Office of the Superintendent, Camden, NJ – Superintendent Paymon Rouhanifard joined students, elected officials, and school leaders last night to celebrate 42 District teachers and education support professionals at the #TeachCamden Educators of the Year award ceremony.

Recipients included two educators from each school, and individual teachers were selected as the Elementary School Teacher of the Year, High School Teacher of the Year, Bilingual Teacher of the Year, and Special Education Teacher of the Year. Students personally awarded the Elementary and High School Teachers of the Year, Nikrena Steed from Octavius V. Catto Family School and Brian McAndrews from Creative Arts Morgan Village Academy, respectively.

“Our educators deserve this recognition and so much more,” said Superintendent Rouhanifard. “These individuals are incredibly committed and regularly overcome myriad obstacles to support our students in reaching their extraordinary potential. The gains we’ve seen across the District—the increased graduation rate, decreased dropout rate, increased student performance, and much more—are directly attributable to the remarkable efforts of these individuals and their colleagues.”

Each school’s teacher and educational support professional of the year were nominated and selected by their school community based on criteria set out by the New Jersey Department of Education. To choose the District-wide Teacher of the Year winners, the Division of School Support observed each school’s teacher of the year, and an elementary and high school winner were selected based on the quality of observed instruction, feedback from the school leader and peers, and students’ growth scores.

The Bilingual Teacher of the Year, Magda Thompson from Octavius V. Catto Community Family School, was selected based on peer nominations and a series of observations conducted by the District’s Bilingual Leadership Team. The Special Education Teacher of the Year, Randy Jackson from Yorkship Family School, was selected based on nominations from the Special Services Leadership Team and peer voting.

"I'm deeply grateful to these educators for the tireless work they do to help prepare our students for success," said Board President and Camden High alumnus Martha F. Wilson. "Around the clock and around the year, these men and women focus their energy on doing everything they can to support our students and their families. This event is about them, and they deserve it."

Sponsors including Subaru of America, Inc., Townsend Press, the New Jersey 5th Legislative District, and the South Jersey Federal Credit Union showed their appreciation for local educators with a variety of gifts and financial awards.

“Subaru of America congratulates Ms. Steed and Mr. McAndrews on this distinction, as well as the other winners for their commitment to Camden City children,” said Thomas J. Doll, President and Chief Operating Officer, Subaru of America, Inc. “We believe in the importance of honoring excellence in education and recognizing educators who are working hard, each day, to serve the students of Camden City School District.”

“South Jersey Federal Credit Union is honored to celebrate Camden City School District educators,” said Ken Barnshaw, the Vice President of Governmental & Community Affairs for the South Jersey Federal Credit Union. “We are especially honored to recognize the hard work of Ms. Thompson and Mr. Jackson, in their service to bilingual and special education students. We believe it is important to highlight excellent educators who are going above and beyond, in and out of the classroom.”

The New Jersey Department of Education offers State public schools the opportunity to nominate one certified teacher and one education support professional for the Governor’s Educator of the Year Award. This celebratory program integrates the State’s Teacher of the Year Program with the Governor’s Teacher/Educational Support Professional Recognition Program to recognize the best educators working in New Jersey public schools.

Elementary/Middle School Educators of the Year

1. Caryn Glass – Bonsall
2. Angel Hamilton – Bonsall
3. Nikrena Steed – Catto – District Elementary/Middle School Teacher of the Year
4. Raymond Domenech – Catto
5. Magda Thompson – Catto – District Bilingual Teacher of the Year
6. Sturrae Meyers-Grier – Cooper’s Poynt
7. Charisse Holmes – Cooper’s Poynt
8. Kiana Roman – Cramer
9. Majorie Cutler – Cramer
10. Myra Grant – Cream
11. Lisasophia Dovas – Davis
12. Nancy Lopez – Davis
13. Denise Lewis – Dudley
14. Wanda Patrick – Dudley
15. Sherwonda Rios – Early Childhood Development Center
16. Carmen Cooper – Early Childhood Development Center
17. Denise Angrish – Forest Hill
18. Danene Beckam – Forest Hill
19. Kathleen Adams – Sharp
20. Lydia Booker – Sharp
21. Raeshell Carter – Sumner
22. Migdalia Rosado – Sumner

23. Samuel Colon – Veterans Memorial
24. Lenora Milligan – Veterans Memorial
25. Kristofor Anderson – Wiggins
26. Lizzie Perez – Wiggins
27. Yvette Fullman-Everrett – H.B. Wilson
28. Michael Benjamin – H.B. Wilson
29. Nakia James – Yorkship
30. Linda Brown-Bartlett – Yorkship
31. Diane Brittingham – Yorkship
32. Randy Jackson –Yorkship – District Special Education Teacher of the Year

High School Educators of the Year

33. Karen Borrelli – Brimm
34. Clarissa McEady – Brimm
35. Brian McAndrews – Creative Arts Morgan Village Academy – District High School Teacher of the Year
36. Scott Bustabad – Camden High School
37. Karen Stanford – Camden High School
38. Crystal Atwater – Camden High School
39. Paulina Anyanwu – Creative Arts
40. Andrew Weinberg – Big Picture Learning Academy
41. Eva Diane Lyle-Smith – Woodrow Wilson High School
42. Yvette Pruitt – Woodrow Wilson High School

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