

BURROUGHS
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FUND 

North Carolina Teacher of the Year

Celebrating North Carolina Educators:
A Showcase of Excellence

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016 • THE UMSTEAD, CARY, NC

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

Special Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the nomination and selection process at all levels. Our special appreciation is extended to the following:

**BURROUGHS
WELLCOME
FUND** 

BURROUGHS WELLCOME FUND – The Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF) is an independent private foundation dedicated to advancing the biomedical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities. Within this broad mission, BWF seeks to help scientists early in their careers develop as independent investigators and to advance fields in the biomedical sciences that are undervalued or in need of particular encouragement. BWF was founded in 1955 as the corporate foundation of Burroughs Wellcome Co., the U.S. branch of the Wellcome pharmaceutical enterprise, based in the United Kingdom. In 1993, BWF received a \$400 million gift from the Wellcome Trust to become a fully independent foundation.



FLOW AUTOMOTIVE, LLC – Don Flow, CEO, of Winston-Salem donated a one-year lease on a vehicle for the North Carolina Teacher of the Year. Support of the recognition program highlights the company's appreciation and commitment to public education and teachers across our state. The Department of Public Instruction greatly appreciates their generosity.



THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING – The Center for International Understanding serves North Carolina by promoting awareness, expanding understanding, and empowering action through global education. CIU's programs for business, policy, and education leaders aim to make North Carolina the most globally engaged state in the nation. Founded in 1979, CIU is part of the University of North Carolina system.

lenovo  **FOR
THOSE
WHO DO.**

LENOVO – Lenovo is committed to supporting educators. As the number one PC company in the world and a global industry leader in the education market, Lenovo is committed to making a sustainable difference in support of teachers, students, classrooms, and education-related initiatives through innovative products and solutions, community investments, and collaborative partnerships. With over 2,200 employees at its Morrisville headquarters and Guilford County manufacturing center, Lenovo is proud to call North Carolina home.

Award Ceremony

Welcome and Greetings

DR. YVETTE STEWART • Assistant Director, Educator Effectiveness
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

STEVE LASSITER, JR. • 2015 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year
State Board of Education Advisor

Invocation

DR. CYNTHIA M. MARTIN • Professional Development Leadership Coordinator
Educator Effectiveness, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Luncheon • 12:00pm

Remarks

GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY'S OFFICE
CATHERINE L. TRUITT • Senior Education Advisor

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DAN FOREST

DR. JOHN E. BURRIS • President, Burroughs Wellcome Fund

MEREDITH L. HENDERSON • Senior Director of Programs
The Center for International Understanding

SAM MORRIS • Worldwide Education Segment Executive, Lenovo

KEANA C. TRIPLETT • 2015 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year

Recognition of Regional Candidates

BRANDON PATTERSON • Assistant Director, Federal Program Monitoring and Support
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Announcement of 2016 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year

DR. JUNE ATKINSON • North Carolina State Superintendent
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

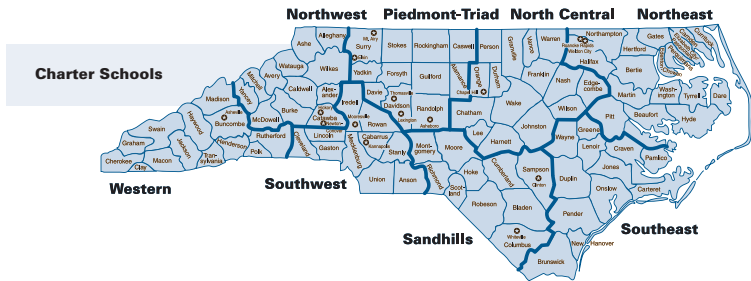
Closing and Adjournment

DR. YVETTE STEWART • Assistant Director, Educator Effectiveness
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

NC Teacher of the Year Program

Since 1970, North Carolina has participated in the North Carolina Teacher of the Year program recognizing its outstanding teachers. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, along with its sponsors, recognizes teachers at the school, district, regional, and statewide levels. First, individuals are chosen to represent their respective schools as Teacher of the Year, then they advance to compete at the district level. Once the district selections have been made, the winners vie as one of the state's nine Regional Teachers of the Year. This selection process is facilitated in each region by Regional Education Facilitators representing the Educator Effectiveness Division at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Similarly, individual charter schools nominate Teachers of the Year who participate in a selection process facilitated by the Office of Charter Schools at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Charter Schools are clustered together to form the ninth region of the state. After the district and charter school nomination processes are completed, the Charter School Teacher of the Year joins the Regional Teachers of the Year team as a finalist for the state Teacher of the Year.



2016 Teacher of the Year State Selection Committee

Naming the individual who will represent North Carolina and serve as a spokesperson for all teachers in our state is a challenging task. The state selection committee members are chosen based on their dynamic public record in support of education. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education take pride in celebrating the most innovative and effective public school educators in our state.

- Patricia Foust** • Retired Assistant Superintendent • Randolph County Schools
- Dr. Gregory Hicks** • Retired Assistant Superintendent • Orange County Schools
- Mark Jewell** • Vice President • North Carolina Association of Educators
- Mike Martin** • Associate Director • Policy and Program • Hunt Institute
- Dr. Yvette Stewart, Ex Officio Member** • Assistant Director • Educator Effectiveness • North Carolina Department of Public Instruction



Marie Smith

Northeast Region Teacher of the Year

Conway Middle, Northampton County Schools

- Teaches 5th Grade Science and Math
- 22 years teaching experience
- Chowan University (MEd)
- North Carolina State University (BA)
- Serves as Team Lead of the Conway Middle Innovative Leadership Academy Team
- National Board Certified Teacher

Northeast Region Winners

Stephanie Ambrose

Weeksville Elementary
Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools

Melissa Boyd

Bath Elementary
Beaufort County Schools

Laurie Brooks

John A. Holmes High
Edenton-Chowan Schools

Kathryn Cargile

Hope Middle
Pitt County Schools

Pamela Djigounian

Camden Middle
Camden County Schools

Tonya Hedgepeth

Pittman Elementary
Halifax County Schools

Mollee Holloman

Manteo Elementary
Dare County Schools

Patrick Quast

Chaloner Middle
Roanoke Rapids Graded Schools

Anissa Robinson

Weldon Elementary
Weldon City Schools

Harold Sanderlin

Shawboro Elementary
Currituck County Schools

Paige Smith

Mattamuskeet Elementary
Hyde County Schools

Kristin Stahl

East End Elementary
Martin County Schools

Erika Stephenson

Hertford County Middle
Hertford County Public Schools

Christy Stevens

Gatesville Elementary
Gates County Schools

Kortney Watford

Windsor Elementary
Bertie County Schools

Angel White

Perquimans County High
Perquimans County Schools



Katie Snyder

Southeast Region Teacher of the Year

John T. Hoggard High, New Hanover County Schools

- Teaches 9-12 World History & Psychology
- 7 years teaching experience
- UNC-W (2016 doctoral candidate)
- UNC-Wilmington (MEd) (BA)
- Serves as Master Teacher, UNC-W Watson School of Education Master Teacher Program
- National Board Certified Teacher

Southeast Region Winners

Stephanie Edwards

Brinson Memorial Elementary
Craven County Schools

Mary Hudson

Cape Fear Elementary
Pender County Schools

Jeri (Denise) Humphries

Chinquapin Elementary
Duplin County Schools

Angela Joyner

Grantham Middle
Wayne County Public Schools

Erik Matticola

Swansboro High
Onslow County Schools

Thomas B. "Brad" Robinson

Croatan High
Carteret County Public Schools

Melvin Smith, Jr.

Jones Sr. High
Jones County Schools

Laura Sokol-Scott

Leland Middle
Brunswick County Schools

Christine Wayne

Pamlico County High
Pamlico County Schools

Amy White

Contentnea-Savannah K-8
Lenoir County Schools



Margaret C. McNeill

North Central Region Teacher of the Year

Dunn Middle, Harnett County Schools

- Teaches 7th Grade English Language Arts
- 12 years teaching experience
- Fayetteville State University (BS)
- Serves as a mentor teacher, Lead ELA Teacher for Dunn Middle, and cooperating teacher for Campbell University
- Participates in several community projects: Project Playground, Educational Enrichment Project ASCEND, Human Rights Committee
- 2015 Recipient of Dunn Chamber of Commerce “Golden Apple Award”

North Central Region Winners

Benita Arrington

Laurel Mill Elementary
Franklin County Schools

Wendy Bryant Motley

Broadway Elementary
Lee County Schools

Charlene Burroughs

Granville Central High
Granville County Schools

Leslie Burwell

Northwood High
Chatham County Schools

James Guy

Edgecombe Early College
Edgecombe County Public Schools

Cynthia Hutchings

Smithfield Selma High
Johnston County Schools

Michelle Jackson

Coopers Elementary
Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools

Michael Jones

Culbreth Middle
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools

Lori Khan

Middle College High @ DTCC
Durham Public Schools

Laura Nelson

Margaret Hearne Elementary
Wilson County Schools

Matthew Scialdone

Middle Creek High
Wake County Public School System

Erin Simons

Vaughan Elementary
Warren County Schools

Elizabeth Sinnott

South Elementary
Person County Schools

Julie White

Gravelly Hill Middle
Orange County Schools

Nicole Williamson

Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf
State Operated Program

Robin Wilson

New Hope Elementary
Vance County Schools



Olivia W. Hall

Sandhills Region Teacher of the Year

Roseboro-Salemburg Middle, Sampson County Schools

- Teaches 6th & 7th Grade English Language Arts
- 5 years teaching experience
- UNC-Wilmington (MEd)
- East Carolina University (BS)
- Serves as coach for “Battle of the Books” team which received local, regional and state recognition
- Teacher Representative, Sampson County Schools District Improvement Plan

Sandhills Region Winners

Ashlee Garrison

New Century International Elementary
Cumberland County Schools

Jennifer Hair

East Bladen High
Bladen County Schools

Wenona Mishue

Spring Hill Middle
Scotland County Schools

Trina Osborne

Central Middle
Whiteville City Schools

LaTanya Pattillo

East Columbus High
Columbus County Schools

Morina Ricablanca

East Hoke Middle
Hoke County Schools

Leonardo Romero

Rex-Rennert Elementary
Public Schools of Robeson County

Sandra Starling

L.C. Kerr Elementary
Clinton City Schools

Sarah Talbert

East Montgomery High
Montgomery County Schools

Valeria “Joy” Watson

East Rockingham Elementary
Richmond County Schools

Ashley Williams

Sandhills Farm Life Elementary
Moore County Schools



Kevin Scharen

Piedmont-Triad Region Teacher of the Year

Alamance-Burlington Early College at ACC, Alamance-Burlington School System

- Teaches 9-12 Mathematics
- 11 years teaching experience
- Molloy College – Teaching Certificate
- St. Joseph’s College (BS)
- Serves as Math Department Chairperson and EVAAS trainer
- District-wide AIG/Differentiation PD Presenter

Piedmont-Triad Region Winners

Tonya Baity

Tyro Elementary
Davidson County Schools

Yancy Burklow

Boonville Elementary
Yadkin County Schools

Bronson Ericksen

Elkin Middle
Elkin City Schools

Fanisha Fuller

Oak Hill Elementary
Guilford County Schools

Joy Harman

Southwest Elementary
Lexington City Schools

David Koontz

Davie County High
Davie County Schools

Sara “Katie” Lemons

South Stokes High
Stokes County Schools

Shelli Owens

Mount Airy Middle
Mount Airy City Schools

Marcy Piotrowski

South End Elementary
Rockingham County Schools

Claudia Rodriguez

North Asheboro Middle
Asheboro City Schools

Charity Sutphin

Parkland High
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools

Sarah Wood

Liberty Drive Elementary
Thomasville City Schools



Bobbie J. Cavnar

Southwest Region Teacher of the Year

South Point High, Gaston County Schools

- Teaches 9-12 English and Journalism
- 16 years teaching experience
- UNC-Charlotte (MA)
- Florida State University (BS)
- Serves as Gaston County Schools' New Teacher Induction Program for Success trainer
- NCAE Representative for South Point High

Southwest Region Winners

Lisa Austen

Sandy Ridge Elementary
Union County Schools

Kelly Bumgardner

Northwest Cabarrus Middle
Cabarrus County Schools

Joyce Davenport

Anson High
Anson County Schools

Matthew Dukes

River Gate Elementary
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Nancy Goodnight

Millbridge Elementary
Rowan-Salisbury Schools

Ashley Hooks

Springmore Elementary
Cleveland County Schools

Jacquelyn Lane

Jackson Park Elementary
Kannapolis City Schools

Brooke McCurdy

Collaborative College Technology and
Leadership
Iredell-Statesville Schools

Serenity Smith

Stanly Early College High
Stanly County Schools

Allen Stevens

Mooresville Middle
Mooresville Graded School District



Leah Hayes

Northwest Region Teacher of the Year

South Newton Elementary, Newton-Conover City Schools

- Teaches Kindergarten
- 16 years teaching experience
- Lenoir-Rhyne University (BA)
- Digital Days Presenter (2012-2016)
- Serves as certified "Leader in Me" trainer
- National Board Certified Teacher

Northwest Region Winners

John Ballard

West McDowell Middle
McDowell County Schools

Deanna Berrier

Traphill Elementary
Wilkes County Schools

Linda Chandler

Liberty Middle
Burke County Public Schools

Michelle Dellinger

Avery County High
Avery County Schools

Jeanna Goodson

Maiden High
Catawba County Schools

Jordan Hefner

Stony Point Elementary
Alexander County Schools

Kelly Lambert

Mountain View Elementary
Ashe County Schools

Melissa McKinnon

Grandview Middle
Hickory Public Schools

Misty McKnight

Sparta Elementary
Alleghany County Schools

Linda Pitman

Mitchell High
Mitchell County Schools

Randall (Randy) Seldomridge

Granite Falls Middle
Caldwell County Schools

Allison Sparks

Bethel Elementary
Watauga County Schools



Angel Ledbetter

Western Region Teacher of the Year

Rutherford Early College High, Rutherford County Schools

- Teaches 9-12 Social Studies
- 5 years teaching experience
- Appalachian State University (BA)
- Serves on the Rutherford County Teacher Advisory Council
- Co-developer of Rutherford County School's social studies credit recovery courses
- North Carolina Teaching Fellow

Western Region Winners

Pamela Arrowood

Polk County High
Polk County Schools

Andrea Chalker

Highlands K-12
Macon County Schools

Ray Crawford

Fairview School
Jackson County Public Schools

Brian Gonzales

Clyde A. Erwin High
Buncombe County Schools

Amy Harrington

Bethel Middle
Haywood County Schools

Laura Jane Howald

Asheville City Preschool
Asheville City Schools

Julie Hughes

Murphy Middle
Cherokee County Schools

Brandon Rice

Madison High
Madison County Schools

Jennifer Sensabaugh

Brevard Middle
Transylvania County Schools

Amy Shelton

Hayesville Elementary
Clay County Schools

Misty Shope

Robbinsville Middle
Graham County Schools



Brandon Brown

Charter Schools Teacher of the Year

Lake Norman Charter, Huntersville, NC

- Teaches 11th and 12th grade US History
- 10 years teaching experience
- State University of New York (MS)
- Nazareth College of Rochester (BA)
- Serves as contributor to the APUSH (AP US History) National Teacher Podcast
- 95% Advanced Placement pass rate with an average score over 4.2 between 2013-2015

Charter School Winners

Ken Boyer

Voyager Academy

Charissa Denny

Roxboro Community

Chanda Foxx Allen

Chatham Charter

Carl Harrington

East Wake Academy

Ellen Hotaling

Invest Collegiate

Elizabeth Kay Salema

Socrates Academy

2015 North Carolina Regional Teachers of the Year



Keana C. Triplett

2015 Burroughs Wellcome Fund
North Carolina Teacher of the Year

Northwest • Region 7
Ashe County High • Ashe County Schools



Jami Dickerson

Northeast Region
Pitt County Schools



Joshua D. Gaskill

Southeast Region
Pamlico County Schools



Jeremy C. Tucker

North Central Region
Wilson County Schools



Mariel Barker Sellers

Sandhills Region
Columbus County Schools



JoAnna Massoth

Piedmont-Triad Region
Chatham County Schools



Jennifer Whitley

Southwest Region
Union County Public Schools



Randy Pressley

Western Region
Haywood County Schools



Elizabeth Anne Padgett

Charter Schools
Huntersville, NC

Past TOY Winners

- 2015 **Keana C. Triplett**, Ashe County Schools, English, High School
- 2014 **James E. Ford**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, World History, High School
- 2013 **Karyn Collie Dickerson**, Guilford County Schools, English, High School
- 2012 **Darcy Grimes**, Watauga County Schools, 3rd Grade
- 2011 **Tyronna Hooker**, Alamance-Burlington Schools, EC Inclusion, Grades 6-8
- 2010 **Jennifer J. Facciolini**, Sampson County Schools, Social Studies, High School
- 2009 **Jessica Garner**, Union County Public Schools, Spanish, High School
- 2008 **Cindi Rigsbee**, Orange County Schools, Reading, Middle School, "National Finalist"
- 2007 **James Bell**, Edenton-Chowan Public Schools, Language Arts, 8th Grade
- 2006 **Diana Beasley**, Hickory City Schools, Biology, High School
- 2005 **Wendy Miller**, Craven County Schools, Grades K-2
- 2004 **Lizbeth Alfaro**, Catawba County Schools, ESL, Grades K-6
- 2003 **Allison Ormond**, Rockingham County Schools, Language Arts/Social Studies, 7th Grade
- 2002 **Melissa Bartlett**, Iredell-Statesville Schools, English, High School, "National Finalist"
- 2001 **Carmen Wilson**, Ashe County Schools, Mathematics, High School
- 2000 **Laura Bilbro-Berry**, Beaufort County Schools, 2nd Grade
- 1999 **Kimberly H. Hughes**, Wake County Schools, Kindergarten
- 1998 **Rebecca O. Hoyle**, Onslow County Schools, Music, Grades K-5
- 1997 **Julian L. Coggins, Jr.**, Cabarrus County Schools, Science, High School
- 1996 **Richard Scott Griffin**, Gaston County Schools, 5th Grade
- 1995 **Vernestine Kent Taylor**, Wilson County Schools, Mathematics, High School
- 1994 **Sandra C. Wells**, Asheville City Schools, (Buncombe Co.), Team Teacher, 1st & 4th Grades
- 1993 **Sarah M. Pratt**, McDowell County Schools, English/Social Studies, High School, "National Hall of Fame Winner"
- 1992 **Dixie F. Abernathy**, Gaston County Schools, Science, Junior High School
- 1991 **Annie Pegram**, Durham City Schools, (Durham Co.), 1st Grade
- 1990 **Louis Gotlieb**, Granville County Schools, Science, High School
- 1989 **Sandra Davis Rogers**, Rowan County Schools, 1st-3rd Grades
- 1988 **Merv Sessoms**, Haywood County Schools, English, High School
- 1987 **Cynthia B. Zeger-Ostherhus**, Salisbury City Schools, (Rowan Co.), Mathematics, High School
- 1986 **Donna H. Oliver**, Burlington City Schools, (Alamance Co.), Science, High School, "National Winner"
- 1985 **Pamela F. Brewer**, Person County Schools, English/Journalism, High School
- 1984 **Phillip R. Dail**, Wake County Schools, Science, High School
- 1983 **Jean Paul Powell**, Clinton City Schools, (Sampson Co.), English, 12th Grade
- 1982 **James Jerome Williams**, Burke County Schools, Music, High School
- 1981 **Penelope Sue Smith**, Asheboro City Schools, (Randolph Co.), Humanities, High School
- 1980 **Linda Lee**, Burlington City Schools, (Alamance Co.), English, High School
- 1979 **Jo Ann Payne Norris**, Wake County Schools, 1st Grade
- 1978 **Ruth P. Watkins**, Richmond County Schools, Social Studies, High School
- 1977 **Ted Scott Henson**, Vance County Schools, Language Arts/Social Studies, 5th Grade
- 1976 **Ruby Murchison**, Fayetteville City Schools, (Cumberland Co.), Language Arts/Social Studies, 7th Grade, "National Winner"
- 1975 **Herman L. Forbes**, High Point City Schools, (Guilford Co.), 6th Grade
- 1974 **Frances A. Kiser**, Cleveland County Schools, English, High School
- 1973 **Sarah E. Spivey**, Raleigh City Schools, (Wake Co.), 4th-5th Grade, "National Finalist"
- 1972 **James M. "Jay" Rogers**, Durham City Schools, (Durham Co.), American History/Black Studies, High School, "National Winner"
- 1971 **Genella Allison**, Hickory City Schools, (Catawba Co.), English/Journalism, High School
- 1970 **John McFadden**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, 6th Grade, "National Finalist"

*“If your actions inspire others
to dream more, learn more,
do more and become more,
you are a leader.”*

– JOHN QUINCY ADAMS –

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The Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year
process is facilitated by the Educator Effectiveness Division.