Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year

Celebrating North Carolina Educators: A Showcase of Excellence

Friday, May 12, 2017 • The Umstead Hotel, Cary, NC

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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:

Wells Fargo is a nationwide, diversified, community-based financial services company that has 307 stores and more than 31,000 team members in North Carolina. Wells Fargo’s vision is to satisfy all of its customers’ financial needs and to help them succeed financially through its banking, commercial real estate lending, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance products and services. Wells Fargo is honored to sponsor the North Carolina Principal of the Year Program and to support educational initiatives in communities across the state. This past year in North Carolina, Wells Fargo provided more than $17.7 million to nonprofits and schools. These contributions were channeled into areas such as neighborhood revitalization, education, mortgage counseling, small business development, human services and financial literacy. Team members volunteered more than 190,000 hours.

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Founded in 1965 by entrepreneur Bertil Hult, EF (Education First) is a privately-held company with 16 divisions that offer a range of educational programs from language training, educational travel, and academic degrees to cultural exchanges. With a mission to break down barriers in language, culture and geography, EF has helped people of all ages and nationalities become citizens of the world. From Berlin to Beijing, Moscow to Mexico City, Dubai to Denver, EF operates 400 schools and offices in over 50 countries. EF’s global network includes 9,000 staff and 25,000 teachers and guides. To date, EF has helped over 15 million people to learn a new language, discover the world, or earn an academic degree.

Minneapolis-based Jostens provides products, programs and services that help people tell their stories, celebrate important traditions and recognize achievements. Jostens is the most trusted partner in helping customers to celebrate moments that matter. The company’s products include school yearbooks and other memory book products, scholastic products such as class rings and graduation products, and products for athletic champions and their fans. Jostens is a subsidiary of Visant Corporation, a marketing and publishing services enterprise servicing the school affinity, direct marketing, fragrance and cosmetics and personal care sampling and packaging, and educational and trade publishing segments.

The Hampton Inn & Suites Chapel Hill-Carrboro/Downtown is a proud sponsor of the Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year program. The hotel is set in the heart of Chapel Hill/Carrboro within walking distance to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and dining and leisure options in downtown Chapel Hill. This Chapel Hill/Carrboro hotel provides flexible meeting spaces, conference facilities, and banquet services for up to 200 people.
WELCOME AND GREETINGS

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

ERIC C. DAVIS • Board Member, North Carolina Board of Education

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

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

LUNCHEON

REMARKS

THE HONORABLE DAN FOREST • Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina

CARRIE GRAY • Vice President, Community Relations Consultant, Wells Fargo

JASON HOGAN • North Carolina Sales Representative, Jostens

MELODY CHALMERS • 2016 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year

DR. MARIA PITRE-MARTIN • Deputy State Superintendent
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

RECOGNITION OF REGIONAL CANDIDATES

DR. YVETTE STEWART-MACKEY • REGIONAL EDUCATION FACILITATORS
Educator Effectiveness, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2017 WELLS FARGO
NORTH CAROLINA PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

JACK CLAYTON • Regional President, Wells Fargo

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

MARK JOHNSON • North Carolina Superintendent
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Selecting the individual who will represent North Carolina’s principals and serve as a spokesperson for administrators and educators in our state is a most challenging task. Candidates must meet all program eligibility requirements and must be a practicing school administrator in a NC public or charter school. After candidates are nominated by their local education agency (LEA) or selected to represent their public charter school, a selection process follows that includes a rigorous portfolio exercise and an interview at the regional level. One principal is selected to represent each of the eight regions of North Carolina. The Regional Principals of the Year continue by participating in the process at the state level where 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 leaders in our state.

2017 STATE SELECTION COMMITTEE

DR. SHIRLEY CARRAWAY
North Carolina Liaison, Southeast Comprehensive Center

PATRICIA FOUST
Retired Assistant Superintendent, Randolph County Schools

DR. GREGORY HICKS
Retired Assistant Superintendent, Orange County Schools

DR. DENISE MORTON
Director, Public School Outreach, Hill Center

DR. YVETTE STEWART-MACKEY
EX-OFFICIO – Assistant Director, Educator Effectiveness
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
"As the instructional leader, I have demonstrated to my staff the importance of personalizing learning for all students through data analysis."

• 5 years administrative experience
• East Carolina University (EdS, MA, BA)
• Elizabeth City State University (MSA)
• National Board Certification
• Member of 2015 Cohort of Distinguished Leader in Practice for Digital Learning
• According to 2016 Teacher Working Conditions Survey, 100% of teachers feel their school is a good place to work and learn up from 83.9% in 2014.
Maria Johnson
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
Northside High | Onslow County Schools

"It is my responsibility to provide every employee in the building with the emotional support I would want and need in order to feel appreciated, needed and fulfilled."

- 17 years administrative experience
- East Carolina University (MA)
- UNC-Wilmington (BA)
- School recognized as a National AVID Demonstration Site
- According to the 2016 Teacher Working Conditions survey, 92.6% of teachers feel the school administrators support teachers’ efforts to maintain discipline in the classroom up from 88.2% in 2014.

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT FINALISTS

Jackie Arthur
Beulaville Elementary
Duplin County Schools

Jenny Bell
Morehead City Elementary
Carteret County Schools

Dr. Tosha Diggs
Heide Trask High
Pender County Schools

Rhonda Greene
Contentnea-Savannah K-8
Lenoir County Schools

Debra Hurst
W. J. Gurganus Elementary
Craven County Schools

Jada Mumford
Greene County Intermediate
Greene County Schools

Helen Otto
Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary
Brunswick County Schools

Thomas Kevin Smith
Spring Creek Middle
Wayne County Public Schools

Dr. Steven Sullivan
John T. Hoggard High
New Hanover County Schools

Michael White
Jones Sr. High
Jones County Schools
Kiley Brown

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
Effland-Cheeks Global Elementary | Orange County Schools

“I believe in empowering teachers through distributing leadership, celebrating successes, and providing data-driven professional development to meet their needs.”

• 5 years administrative experience
• North Carolina Central University (MSA and MA)
• UNC-Greensboro (BS)
• North Carolina Teaching Fellow
• According to 2016 Teacher Working Conditions survey, 97.5% the school leadership facilitates using data to improve student learning up from 88.5% in 2014.

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT FINALISTS

Claude Archer
West Edgecombe Middle
Edgecombe County Public Schools

Kenneth Bennett
Dixon Road Elementary
Johnston County Schools

Elizabeth Bridges
SanLee Middle
Lee County Schools

Valerie Budd
Speight Middle
Wilson County Schools

Genie Faulkner
Laurel Mill Elementary
Franklin County Schools

Julie Finch
C.G. Credle Elementary
Granville County Public Schools

Dr. Dekel “Jonte” Hill
Southern Middle
Person County Schools

Sharon Johnson
Buies Creek Elementary
Harnett County Schools

Crystal Richardson
Clarke Elementary
Vance County Schools

Beverly Rudolph
Culbreth Middle
Chapel Hill/Carborro City Schools

Muriel Summers
A.B. Combs Elementary
Wake County Schools

Kimberly Taylor
Bonlee School
Chatham County Schools

Roderick Tillery, Sr.
Rocky Mount Middle
Nash Rocky Mount Public Schools

Gloria Woods-Weeks
Josephine Dobbs Clement Early College
Durham Public Schools
Dr. Mary Hemphill
SANDHILLS REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
I. Ellis Johnson Elementary | Scotland County Schools

“As the lead instructional facilitator, I have developed & supported an Instructional Lead Team that is charged with providing classroom teachers with interactive models of student-centered instruction, collaborative professional learning communities, and multiple opportunities for teacher & student leadership.”

- 7 years of administrative experience
- N.C. A&T State University (EdD)
- Western Carolina University (MSA)
- Meredith College (BA)
- North Carolina Teaching Fellow
- Developed “One Minute Meetings” where she meets with each student in her building about academic goals, specific questions, or school concerns.
- According to the 2016 Teacher Working Conditions survey, 100% of teachers feel they receive feedback that can help them improve teaching up from 73.3% in 2014.

SANDHILLS DISTRICT FINALISTS

Priscilla Brayboy
Bladen Lakes Primary
Bladen County Schools

Benjie Brown
West Montgomery High
Montgomery County Schools

Greg Dirks
Sampson Middle
Clinton City Schools

Dr. Jill Hathaway
St. Pauls Elementary
Public Schools of Robeson County

Nicky Hobbs
Columbus Career & College Academy
Columbus County Schools

Julie Hunter
Union High
Sampson County Schools

Dr. Vernon Lowery
Westover High
Cumberland County Schools

Jennifer Purvis
North Moore High
Moore County Schools

Shannon Southerland
Upchurch Elementary
Hoke County Schools

Willette Surgeon
West Rockingham Elementary
Richmond County Schools
Jusmar Maness  
PIEDMONT-TRIAD REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR  
Balfour Elementary  |  Asheboro City Schools

"I influence my staff by being visible, having open communications and building trust and respect in order to create a school environment that aligns with our vision and focuses on the successes of our students."

- 4 years administrative experience
- UNC-Greensboro (MA)
- Universidad de Carabobo (BA)
- Selected for 2016 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Influence Leader Cohort
- Spearheaded the first Dual Language Immersion Program in the District
- According to 2016 Teacher Working Conditions survey, 90.2% of teachers feel they have an effective process for making group decisions to solve problems up from 68.3% in 2014

PIEDMONT-TRIAD DISTRICT FINALISTS

Olivia Byerly  
B.H. Tharrington Primary  
Mount Airy City Schools

Brad Craddock  
Robert B. Glenn High  
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County

Jedidiah Cockrell  
Courtney Elementary  
Yadkin County Schools

Pam Colbert  
Elkin Elementary  
Elkin City Schools

David Hicks  
Meadowbrook Academy  
Stokes County Schools

Shon Hildreth  
Southwestern Randolph High  
Randolph County School System

Kevin Leake  
Thomasville Middle  
Thomasville City Schools

Daniel McInnis  
Eastlawn Elementary  
Alamance-Burlington Schools

Mary “Ann” Mitchell  
Reidsville High  
Rockingham County Schools

Dan Shamblen  
Oak Grove Middle  
Davidson County Schools

Karen Stephens  
William R. Davie Elementary  
Davi County Schools

Kevin Via  
Surry Early College of Design  
Surry County Schools

Kevin Wheat  
Allen Jay Prep  
Guilford County Schools
Amy Rhyne
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
East Iredell Elementary | Iredell-Statesville Schools

“In my time as a principal, I have found 99% of the time if there is an issue, the problem is in the process, not with the people.”

- 10 years administrative experience
- Appalachian State University (EdS, BA)
- Gardner-Webb (MA)
- Presented at North Carolina Principal and Assistant Principal Association Conference (2016), Learn Lead Love Serve-Strategies that Saved our School
- According to the 2016 Teacher Working Conditions survey, 92.9% of teachers feel there is an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect in this school, up from 76% in 2014.

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT FINALISTS

Dr. Erin Anderson
Jackson Park Elementary
Kannapolis City Schools

Dr. Jamie Durant
West Rowan High
Rowan-Salisbury Schools

Nelsa Feaster
Graham Elementary
Cleveland County Schools

Rebecca Huffstetler
Stanley Middle
Gaston County Schools

Toby McLaurin
Wadesboro Primary
Anson County Schools

Beverly Pennington
Albemarle Middle
Stanly County Schools

Dr. Michael Royal
Mooresville High
Mooresville Graded School District

Dustin Shoe
C.C. Griffin Middle
Cabarrus County Schools

Kristi Smith
Catawba Springs Elementary
Lincoln County Schools

Anne (Beth) Thompson
Whitewater Middle
Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools

Dr. Jonathan Tyson
Piedmont High
Union County Public Schools
Dr. Jeffrey Isenhour  
**NORTHWEST REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**  
Bunker Hill High  |  Catawba County Schools

"As the principal, I am constantly reiterating to students, faculty, and community members that we want our students to be highly educated and that when they graduate from our school, that we want them to be in one of three places: Enrolled, Enlisted, or Employed—or a combination of all three."

- 17 years administrative experience  
- Appalachian State (EdD, MA, BA)  
- Garner Webb (MA)  
- Governing Board Member – Phi Delta Kappa  
- Partner with Catawba Valley Community College in the development of College & Career Promise Programs for transfer credit & CTE areas  
- According to the 2016 Teacher Working Conditions survey, 92.0% of teachers feel they are encouraged to participate in school leadership roles, up from 89.1% in 2014.

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**NORTHWEST DISTRICT FINALISTS**

- **Brandon Birchfield**  
  Deyton Elementary  
  Mitchell County Schools

- **Scott Carter**  
  Alleghany High  
  Alleghany County Schools

- **Ritchie Cornette**  
  The Mulberry Elementary  
  Wilkes County Schools

- **Amy Dowdle**  
  Glenwood Elementary  
  McDowell County Schools

- **Callie Grubb**  
  Blue Ridge Elementary  
  Ashe County Schools

- **Caroline Lovette**  
  Hickory Career and Arts Magnet High  
  Hickory Public Schools

- **Ruth Ann Shirley**  
  Crossnore Elementary  
  Avery County Schools

- **Chad Smith**  
  South Caldwell High  
  Caldwell County Schools

- **Shane Whitener**  
  North Newton Elementary  
  Newton-Conover City Schools

- **Brett Wilson**  
  Walter R Johnson Middle  
  Burke County Public Schools
Doris Sellers
WESTERN REGIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
A.C. Reynolds High | Buncombe County Schools

“I create conditions that result in our School Improvement Team, teacher leaders, and administration working conjunctively in analyzing our school needs and being the leaders of change.”

- 9 years administrative experience
- Western Carolina University (MAEd)
- UNC-Asheville (BA)
- Received the Eblen Compass Award for Significant Improvement in Graduation Cohort Rate (90%) – 2015
- According to the Teachers Working Condition Survey, 92.1% of teachers feel that school leadership facilitates using data to improve student learning which is consistent with 2014 results.

WESTERN DISTRICT FINALISTS

Jeff Bailey
Brevard Middle
Transylvania County Schools

Alissa Cheek
Tri-County Early College
Cherokee County Schools

Travis Collins
Tuscola High
Haywood County Schools

Dr. David Robinson
School of Inquiry and Life Sciences
Asheville City Schools

Timothy Torvinen
Rutherford Opportunity Center
Rutherford County Schools

Teri Walawender
Blue Ridge School
Jackson County Public Schools

Bobby Wilkins
Hendersonville High
Henderson County Public Schools
Melody Chalmers
2016 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year
SANDHILLS REGION, CUMBERLAND COUNTY SCHOOLS

William W. Peele, III
NORTHEAST REGION
Bertie County Schools

Dr. Maureen Furr
SOUTHWEST REGION
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Molly E. White
SOUTHEAST REGION
Brunswick County Schools

Kelly Nicholson
NORTHWEST REGION
Catawba County Schools

Matthew Hunt
NORTH CENTRAL REGION
Durham Public Schools

Peggy K. Marshall
WESTERN REGION
Henderson County Public Schools

Wayne Duggins, Jr.
PIEDMONT-TRIAD REGION
Stokes County Schools
The Wells Fargo Principal of the Year Award was introduced in 1984 to recognize the role of the principal in establishing an environment conducive to the pursuit and achievement of academic excellence in North Carolina’s schools. This Foundation sponsors the award in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Since the inception of the program, there have been 37 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principals of the Year, 240 regional award recipients, and 3,066 local Wells Fargo Principals of the Year.

This program recognizes principals at the local, regional, and statewide levels. The Wells Fargo Principal of the Year serves as the North Carolina ambassador for public education and represents our state at the National Level. The state designee serves in an advisory capacity to the State Board of Education and a one-year term on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Public School Forum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Previous Winner</th>
<th>School District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Melody Chalmers</td>
<td>Cumberland County Schools, E.E. Smith High</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Steve Lassiter, Jr.</td>
<td>Pitt County Schools, Pactolus School</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Dr. Carrie Tulbert</td>
<td>Mooresville Graded School District, Mooresville Middle</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Dale Cole</td>
<td>Beaufort County Schools, Chocowinity Middle</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Patrice Faison</td>
<td>Guilford County Schools, Oak Hill Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Dr. Rob Jackson</td>
<td>Union County Public Schools, Cuthbertson High</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Jan King</td>
<td>Henderson County Schools, Glenn C. Marlow Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Vann Pennell</td>
<td>Brunswick County Schools, South Brunswick High</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Debra Morris</td>
<td>Kannapolis City Schools, A.L. Brown High</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Craig Hill</td>
<td>Lenoir County Schools, Kinston High</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Marian Yates</td>
<td>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, South Mecklenburg High</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Margaret Hyatt</td>
<td>Buncombe County Schools, Avery’s Creek Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>John R. Black</td>
<td>Hickory City Schools, Longview Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Nina René Corders</td>
<td>Cumberland County Schools, E.E. Smith High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Lloyd G. Wimberley</td>
<td>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Myers Park High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Peggy Smith</td>
<td>Johnston County Schools, East Clayton Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Gail T. Edmondson</td>
<td>Greene County Schools, Snow Hill Primary</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Daniel A. Piggott</td>
<td>Winston-Salem/Forsyth Schools, Carver High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Pandora M. Bell</td>
<td>Guilford County Schools, Jesse Wharton Elementary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Education is the kindling of flame, not the filling of a vessel.”
— Socrates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner Name</th>
<th>School District</th>
<th>School Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Judith H. Budacz</td>
<td>Pitt County Schools</td>
<td>Wahl-Coates Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Mary D. McDuffie</td>
<td>Cumberland County Schools</td>
<td>Seventy-First High</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Jo Ann Bowman</td>
<td>Lee County Schools</td>
<td>J. Glenn Edwards Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>David C. Burleson</td>
<td>Burke County Schools</td>
<td>Freedom High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Ann B. Clark</td>
<td>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools</td>
<td>Alexander Graham Middle</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Jane B. Burke</td>
<td>Hertford County Schools</td>
<td>Hertford County High</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>John M. Schroeder</td>
<td>High Point City Schools</td>
<td>Fairview Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>John R. Griffin</td>
<td>Cumberland County Schools</td>
<td>E.E. Smith High</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Dan A. Jones</td>
<td>Guilford County Schools</td>
<td>Erwin Open Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987*</td>
<td>Karen H. Campbell</td>
<td>Buncombe County Schools</td>
<td>W.W. Estes Elementary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dale J. Metz</td>
<td>Greensboro City Schools</td>
<td>Gateway Education Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986*</td>
<td>Patricia F. Gibson</td>
<td>Newton-Conover City Schools</td>
<td>Newton-Conover Middle</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Janie E. Manning</td>
<td>Pitt County Schools</td>
<td>Bethel Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985*</td>
<td>Alice H. Hart</td>
<td>Buncombe County Schools</td>
<td>Glen Arden Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beverly S. White</td>
<td>Hickory City Schools</td>
<td>Jenkins Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984*</td>
<td>Robert A. Clendenin</td>
<td>Guilford County Schools</td>
<td>Paige High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alexander Erwin</td>
<td>Wilkes County Schools</td>
<td>Wilkes Central High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Prior to 1988, two statewide winners were named each year. Since then, one statewide winner has been selected.
A better community starts with one person making a difference

Great leaders leave a mark on the communities they serve. They are one person that focuses on bringing people together to make positive change. The small difference accomplished today can grow and last for generations.

2017 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year, thank you for creating a lasting legacy of success.

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The Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year process is facilitated by the Educator Effectiveness Division.

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