

2019 WELLS FARGO NORTH CAROLINA
PRINCIPAL *of the* YEAR

Building the future, one mind at a time



Learning starts with curiosity, is fed by discoveries, and continues for a lifetime. Education lays the foundation for the future of our students and communities.

2019 North Carolina Principal of the Year, you've helped our children take this journey.

wellsfargo.com/stories

Together we'll go far



PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR SPONSORS

WELLS FARGO

Wells Fargo is a nationwide, diversified, community-based financial services company that has 283 stores and more than 33,000 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 \$35.8 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 230,000 hours. Visit a Wells Fargo branch today or wellsfargo.com to learn more about the company.

Wells Fargo and you — together we'll go far.



No Kid Hungry North Carolina is working to break down the barriers that keep kids from accessing healthy food. Our organization was formed in 2011 in partnership with state leaders and the national No Kid Hungry campaign, which is a program of the nonprofit Share Our Strength. In 2014, No Kid Hungry NC became an initiative of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

In North Carolina, almost 900,000 public school students are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. Many of those students depend on school for their nutrition. That's why No Kid Hungry NC is helping connect our state's children to effective but under-utilized federal nutrition programs such as school breakfast, summer meals, and afterschool meals.

Learn more at NoKidHungryNC.org.



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.



Education First

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 pictures, scholastic products such as class rings, graduation products, letter jackets and products for athletic champions and their fans. Jostens partners with schools across the country and internationally, and helps bring their mission, vision, and values to life through their Branding Initiatives — They strive every day to help Faculty & Students not only express it on the walls but live it in the halls. Jostens is a subsidiary company of Platinum Equity.

AWARD CEREMONY

MISTRESS OF CEREMONY

DR. CYNTHIA M. MARTIN • Recognition & Advancement Lead, District & Regional Support,
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

DR. BEVERLY EMORY • Director, District & Regional Support, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
ALAN DUNCAN • Vice Chairman, State Board of Education
GEOFFREY COLTRANE • Senior Education Advisor, Office of North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

DR. SONJA BROWN • National Board Certification Coordinator, District & Regional Support,
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

LUNCHEON

Musical Tribute by **ALEX UPTON**
Kenan Music Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

REMARKS

SPECIAL VIDEO MESSAGE

JOHN W. WARD • Region Head, Carolinas Division Middle Market Banking, Wells Fargo
LOU ANNE CRUMPLER • State Director, No Kid Hungry NC

REFLECTIONS ON LEADERSHIP

MARK JOHNSON • State Superintendent, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
TABARI WALLACE • 2018 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year

VIDEO PRESENTATION

RECOGNITION OF REGIONAL CANDIDATES

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2019 WELLS FARGO NORTH CAROLINA PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

MICHAEL L. GOLDEN • Executive Vice President, Triangle Region Bank President, Wells Fargo

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

DR. CYNTHIA M. MARTIN

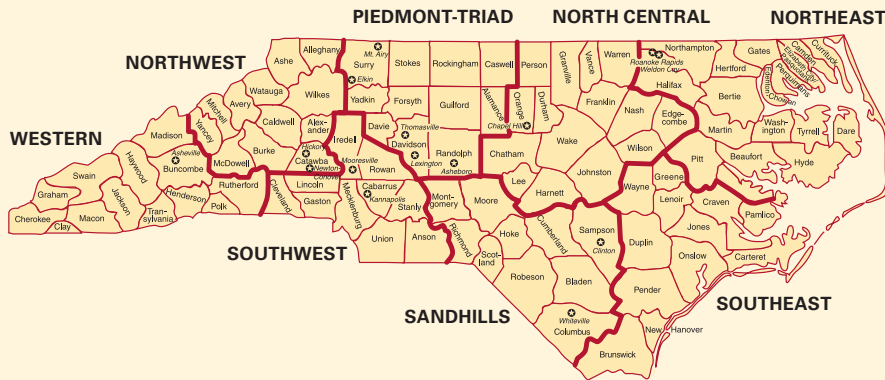
WELLS FARGO NC PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

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 39 Wells Fargo North Carolina Principals of the Year, 256 regional award recipients, and 3,263 local Wells Fargo Principals of the Year. The Principal of the Year Program recognizes principals at the local, regional, and statewide levels.

The local process begins with each school system selecting one principal as its local Wells Fargo Principal of the Year. The selection process at the local level is the responsibility of the local superintendent or designee. The person chosen as the local Wells Fargo Principal of the Year represents his or her school system in the regional selection process. The regional selection process includes an evaluation of the candidate through a portfolio review and an interview. Eight regional finalists participate in the state selection process. The state selection process continues with each regional finalist being interviewed and his/her portfolio reviewed by a state selection committee.

The Wells Fargo Principal of the Year serves as the North Carolina ambassador for the state's 2500 principals. The 2019 NC Principal of the Year will serve in an advisory capacity to the State Board of Education for a two-year term and serves on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Public School Forum.

This selection process is facilitated in each region by Regional Education Facilitators representing the District & Regional Support Unit at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.



2019 STATE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The State Selection Committee, chosen based on their dynamic public record in support of education, perform panel interviews and extensive portfolio review in the selection of the North Carolina Principal of the Year. 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.

PATRICIA FOUST

Retired Assistant Superintendent, Randolph County Schools

DR. REBECCA GARLAND

Retired Deputy State Superintendent
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

THE HONORABLE HOWARD N. LEE

Founder and President of the the Howard N. Lee Institute

DR. SHIRLEY PRINCE

Executive Director
NC Principals and Assistant Principals Association

DR. CYNTHIA M. MARTIN

Recognition & Advancement Lead
District & Regional Support Unit
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

MELISSA FIELDS

NORTHEAST REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Perquimans Central | Perquimans County Schools

"I truly value all faculty members' input and know that we are a better school when we work together to make the decisions in the best interest of our students. This focus on teacher empowerment and community involvement is imperative for improvement."

- 10 Years of administrative experience
- Elizabeth City State University (MSA)
- East Carolina University (MLS; Certificate)
- Mary Washington College (BS)
- PBIS Exemplar School
- NCDPI K-3 Formative Assessment Advisory Council Member
- Distinguished Leadership in Practice Participant
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 97.1% of staff feels the school leadership consistently supports teachers.



NORTHEAST DISTRICT WINNERS

Steven Blackstock

Manteo Elementary
Dare County Schools

Angela Cobb

Northeastern High
Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools

Amber Davis

Camden County High/Camden Early College
Camden County Schools

Tracy Gregory

Windsor Elementary
Bertie County Schools

James Guard

Riverside High
Martin County Schools

Gail Hawkins

Buckland Elementary
Gates County Schools

Cathy Kirkland

Wintergreen Intermediate & Primary
Pitt County Schools

Angela Lasher

WT Griggs Elementary
Currituck County Schools

Kelly Makepeace

John Small Elementary
Beaufort County Schools

Kimberly Scott

Willis Hare Elementary
Northampton County Schools

Jacqueline Williams

Pittman Elementary Leadership Academy
Halifax County Schools

Tammie Williams

Roanoke Rapids Early College High
Roanoke Rapids Graded School District

Stephen Wood

John A. Holmes High
Edenton-Chowan Schools

ELIZABETH P. PIERCE

SOUTHEAST REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

EB Frink Middle | Lenoir County Public Schools

“There are no excuses for giving students anything less than what they deserve. We must love them, respect them, care for them and from where they are coming, and always teach them. We can not do these things without first showing one another and ourselves the same compassion.”

- 6 Years of administrative experience
- East Carolina University (MSA; MAED; BS)
- PBIS Exemplar school
- Implemented Individualized Learning Creates Personal Success (iLCPS) to further supplement curriculum
- Out-of-School-Suspension reduced by 79% from 2016-2017 to 2017-2018
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 97.1% staff feels they receive feedback that can help them improve teaching.



SOUTHEAST DISTRICT WINNERS

Caroline Godwin

Pender High
Pender County Schools

Dr. Rick Hessman

Belville Elementary
Brunswick County Schools

Krista Holland

Edwin A. Anderson Elementary
New Hanover County Schools

Michelle Lee

Roger Bell New Tech Academy
Craven County Schools

Dr. Earl Moore

Charles B. Aycock High
Wayne County Public Schools

Jada Mumford

Greene County Intermediate
Greene County Schools

Pamela Murray

Warsaw Elementary
Duplin County Schools

Michael White

Jones Senior High
Jones County Schools

MATTHEW BRISTOW-SMITH

NORTH CENTRAL REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Edgecombe Early College High | Edgecombe County Public Schools

"The better I self-reflect, the hungrier I become to innovate our instructional practices, to improve the effectiveness of our school operations, to inspire my colleagues to be their best selves, and to instill an even deeper passion for learning in our scholars."

- 5 Years of administrative experience
- North Carolina State University (MSA)
- Appalachian State University (BS)
- Awarded first NC GreenPower Solar Schools grant in Northeast NC
- Implemented Scholar Teachers Program, a public-private partnership designed to identify high school students who want to become teachers
- North Carolina Teaching Fellow
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 100% of staff feels comfortable raising issues and concerns that are important to them.



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT WINNERS

Heather Anders

Smithfield Middle
Johnston County Public Schools

Mary Ann Crews

Mt. Energy Elementary
Granville County Schools

Lawrence Savage

Siler City Elementary
Chatham County Schools

Dr. Emily Bivins

Frank Porter Graham Bilingue Elementary
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools

Dr. Christopher Dossenbach

Southern Lee High
Lee County Schools

Dr. Carnetta Thomas

L. B. Yancey Elementary
Vance County Schools

Stephanie Brooks

Edward Best Elementary
Franklin County Schools

Dr. Kimberly Ferrell

Burton Magnet Elementary
Durham Public Schools

Sherri Wells

Middlesex Elementary
Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools

Dr. Will Chavis

Enloe Magnet High
Wake County Public Schools System

Patrick Holmes

South Elementary
Person County Schools

Eric Yarbrough

Orange High
Orange County Schools

Krystal Cox

Wilson Academy of Applied Technology
Wilson County Schools

Christopher Pearson

Overhills High
Harnett County Schools

JAMES "BO" MULLINS



SANDHILLS REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Clement Elementary | Sampson County Schools

"Our school is more than just a building but a place where our school family can come and partner with us in meeting the needs of all students."

- 19 Years of administrative experience
- UNC-Wilmington (doctoral candidate)
- North Carolina State University (MSA; Certificate; BS)
- Moved school from C to an A with exceeding growth
- National Blue Ribbon School
- North Carolina National Title I Distinguished School Nominee
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 100% of staff feels teachers receive feedback that can help them improve teaching.

SANDHILLS DISTRICT WINNERS

Leslie Faulk

Cerro Gordo Elementary
Columbus County Schools

Isabel Jones

Rosenwald Elementary
Public Schools of Robeson County

Peggy Hester

West Bladen High
Bladen County Schools

Hoyt Andrew (Andy) McCormick

Union Pines High
Moore County Schools

Bobbie Mills

Wagram Elementary
Scotland County Schools

Heather Seawell

Montgomery County Early College
Montgomery County Schools

Kate Smith

Monroe Avenue Elementary
Richmond County Schools

Michael Tucker

Stoney Point Elementary
Cumberland County Schools

Robert Turlington

Butler Avenue
Clinton City Schools

SEAN GAILLARD

PIEDMONT-TRIAD REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Lexington Middle | Lexington City Schools

“There are two essential questions which are constant in my daily lesson plan as principal: “Did I make a positive difference?” and “How can I be a better person for others?” These questions lead me to seek opportunities for growth as a professional.”

- 12 years of administrative experience
- NC A&T State University (MSA)
- Trinity College (MAT)
- The Catholic University of America (BA)
- Principal mentor for Piedmont- Triad Leadership Academy
- Completed Public Education Leadership Project at Harvard University
- Author of The Pepper Effect: Tap into the Magic of Creativity, Collaboration, and Innovation
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 94.1% of staff feels the school leadership facilitates using data to improve student learning.



PIEDMONT-TRIAD DISTRICT WINNERS

Paige Badgett

North Surry High
Surry County Schools

Candace Call

North Asheboro Middle
Asheboro City Schools

Johnna Cheek

South Stokes High
Stokes County Schools

Stephanie Hunt

Walter M. Williams High
Alamance-Burlington Schools

Annette Johnson

Boonville Elementary
Yadkin County Schools

Eric Johnson

Wheatmore High
Randolph County School

Jennifer O'Briant

Oakwood Elementary
Caswell County Schools

Alfreda Smith

Northwest Middle
Winson-Salem/Forsyth County

Russ Snyder

East Davidson High
Davidson County Schools

Jennifer Swofford

Mocksville Elementary
Davie County Schools

Michelle Thigpen

Southwest Elementary
Guilford County Schools

Stephanie Wray

Western Rockingham Middle
Rockingham County Schools

DR. TIMISHA BARNES-JONES



SOUTHWEST REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

West Charlotte High | Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

"I create conditions for leading change by focusing on what matters most, the people. I have a deep belief in others and a strong belief that what makes a school succeed is the people in it and the people who support it."

- 8 Years of administrative experience
- Gardner-Webb University (Ed.D)
- UNC-Charlotte (M.Ed)
- Davidson College (B.A)
- Leads one of first high schools in the nation to implement Opportunity Culture, a teacher recruitment system
- Increased Advanced Placement course enrollment by 88% in 2018 to support student college readiness
- Increased graduation 4 year cohort rate from 54% (2012) to 88.1% (2017)
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 95.5% of staff feels the school leadership facilitates using data to improve student learning.

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT WINNERS

Carole Alley

Parkwood High
Union County Public Schools

Katie Barbee

Jefferson Elementary
Cleveland County Schools

Jonathan Brooks

East Albemarle Elementary
Stanly County Schools

Shanti Clancy

St. James Elementary
Lincoln County Schools

Corey Cochran

Mount Pleasant Elementary
Cabarrus County Schools

Susan Fail

Coddle Creek Elementary
Iredell-Statesville Schools

Jason Irving

Woodrow Wilson Elementary
Kannapolis City Schools

Denise McLean

Highland School of Technology
Gaston County Schools

Christopher Stinson

Anson High
Anson County Schools

Kelly Withers

South Rowan High
Rowan-Salisbury Schools

MICHELLE BAKER

NORTHWEST REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Eastfield Global Magnet | McDowell County Schools

"The day to day acknowledgments are often more important than a once a year big bang because the day to day gratitude sustains people continually in renewal over the course of a long year."

- 5 Years of administrative experience
- Appalachian State University (Ed.S; Add-On-License)
- University of Charleston (M.Ed)
- University of South Carolina (BAIS)
- Distinguished Leadership in Practice Participant
- Implemented "Plan, Do, Study, Act" to support the SIP goals.
- Implemented Lunch with Leaders and Lunch Buddies Programs
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 96.7% of staff feels there is an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect in this school.



NORTHWEST DISTRICT WINNERS

Stacie Burluson

Mayland Early College
Mitchell County Schools

Scott Carter

Alleghany High
Alleghany County Schools

David Colwell

Hibriten High
Caldwell County Schools

Jason Evans

Alexander Early College
Alexander County Schools

Dr. Jennifer Griffin

Grandview Middle
Hickory Public Schools

Kathy Keane

Saint Stephens Elementary
Catawba County Schools

Rebecca Mastin

Millers Creek Elementary
Wilkes County Schools

Christie McMahon

WA Young Elementary
Burke County Public Schools

Philip Norman

Green Valley Elementary
Watauga County Schools

Tamara Presnell

East Yancey Middle
Yancey County Schools

Ricky Ward

Cranberry Middle/Freedom Trail
Avery County Schools

BRANDON SUTTON

WESTERN REGION PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Swain County Middle | Swain County Schools

"The next factor that contributes to creating conditions for leading change and driving continuous school improvement is to 'empower individuals to find their voice.'"

- 7.5 Years of administrative experience
- Western Carolina University (doctoral candidate; certificate; MA; BS)
- Led 1:1 Initiative implementation
- Presented at NCASA Conference on Educational Leadership-Leadership Teams
- Recognized by University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning for the 30X30 More Stories of Success, Hope, and Innovation
- According to 2018 NCTWC survey, 95% of staff feels the faculty and staff have a shared vision.



WESTERN DISTRICT WINNERS

Audrey Reneau

T. C. Henderson Science & Technology
Transylvania County Schools

Jill Barker

Blue Ridge Early College
Haywood County Schools

Jennifer Caldwell

Madison Early College High
Madison County Schools

Brian Chandler

West Buncombe Elementary
Buncombe County Schools

April Dockery

Asheville Middle
Asheville City Schools

Dr. Lisa Fletcher

Andrews High
Cherokee County Schools

Luke Manuel

Hendersonville Middle
Henderson County Public Schools

Jeremiah McCluney

Rutherford Early College High
Rutherford County Schools

Brent Speckhardt

Riverbend Elementary
Jackson County Schools

2018 WELLS FARGO NORTH CAROLINA REGIONAL PRINCIPALS OF THE YEAR



**TABARI
WALLACE**

2018 WELLS FARGO NORTH CAROLINA

PRINCIPAL
of the **YEAR**

SOUTHEAST REGION
CRAVEN COUNTY SCHOOLS



MICHELLE WHITE
Northeast Region
Edenton-Chowan Schools



JONATHAN ENNS
North Central Region
Wake County Public School System



JIM BUTLER
Sandhills Region
Richmond County Schools



TRACY KIMMER
Piedmont-Triad Region
Yadkin County Schools



TITUS L. HOPPER
Southwest Region
Cleveland County Schools



DESARAE KIRKPATRICK
Northwest Region
McDowell County Schools



MELISSA GODFREY
Western Region
Cherokee County Schools

PAST NC PRINCIPALS OF THE YEAR

2018 **Tabari Wallace**, Craven County Schools, West Craven High

2017 **Jason Griffin**, Perquimans County Schools, Hertford Grammar

2016 **Melody Chalmers**, Cumberland County Schools, E.E. Smith High

2015 **Steve Lassiter, Jr.**, Pitt County Schools, Pactolus School

2014 **Dr. Carrie Tulbert**, Mooresville Graded School District, Mooresville Middle

2013 **Dale Cole**, Beaufort County Schools, Chocowinity Middle

2012 **Patrice Faison**, Guilford County Schools, Oak Hill Elementary

2011 **Dr. Rob Jackson**, Union County Public Schools, Cuthbertson High

2010 **Dr. Jan King**, Henderson County Schools, Glenn C. Marlow Elementary

2009 **Vann Pennell**, Brunswick County Schools, South Brunswick High

2008 **Debra Morris**, Kannapolis City Schools, A.L. Brown High

2007 **Craig Hill**, Lenoir County Schools, Kinston High

2006 **Marian Yates**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, South Mecklenburg High

2005 **Margaret Hyatt**, Buncombe County Schools, Avery's Creek Elementary

2004 **John R. Black**, Hickory City Schools, Longview Elementary

2003 **Nina René Corders**, Cumberland County Schools, E.E. Smith High

2002 **Lloyd G. Wimberley**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Myers Park High

2001 **Peggy Smith**, Johnston County Schools, East Clayton Elementary

2000 **Gail T. Edmondson**, Greene County Schools, Snow Hill Primary

1999 **Daniel A. Piggott**, Winston-Salem/Forsyth Schools, Carver High

1998 **Pandora M. Bell**, Guilford County Schools, Jesse Wharton Elementary

1997 **Judith H. Budacz**, Pitt County Schools, Wahl-Coates Elementary

1996 **Mary D. McDuffie**, Cumberland County Schools, Seventy-First High

1995 **Jo Ann Bowman**, Lee County Schools, J. Glenn Edwards Elementary

1994 **David C. Burleson**, Burke County Schools, Freedom High

1993 **Ann B. Clark**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Alexander Graham Middle

1992 **Jane B. Burke**, Hertford County Schools, Hertford County High

1991 **John M. Schroeder**, High Point City Schools, Fairview Elementary

1990 **John R. Griffin**, Cumberland County Schools, E.E. Smith High

1989 **Barbara M. Ledford**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Northeast Jr. High

1988 **Dan A. Jones**, Guilford County Schools, Erwin Open Elementary

1987***Karen H. Campbell**, Buncombe County Schools, W.W. Estes Elementary

Dale J. Metz, Greensboro City Schools, Gateway Education Center

1986***Patricia F. Gibson**, Newton-Conover City Schools, Newton-Conover Middle

Janie E. Manning, Pitt County Schools, Bethel Elementary

1985***Alice H. Hart**, Buncombe County Schools, Glen Arden Elementary

Beverly S. White, Hickory City Schools, Jenkins Elementary

1984***Robert A. Clendenin**, Guilford County Schools, Paige High

Alexander Erwin, Wilkes County Schools, Wilkes Central High

* Prior to 1988, two statewide winners were named each year. Since then, one statewide winner has been selected.



Please share moments from today on social media using #nctoy

The Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year process is facilitated by the District & Regional Support Unit.