



DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS AWARDS
Celebrating Excellence

THE DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS
AWARDS CEREMONY



THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023

4:30 - 6:00 P.M.

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS AWARDS

The Distinguished Teachers Awards Committee, Inc. is a nonprofit organization established to recognize and celebrate excellence among the dedicated teaching staff of the Greenwich Public Schools. The Distinguished Teachers Awards Committee has worked on the selection process for this year's recipients for the last eight months. The committee selects the Distinguished Teacher recipients from nominations made by colleagues, administrators, parents, students and/or community members. The committee reviews the nominations and selects a maximum of six Distinguished Teachers based on the criteria outlined in the Nomination Packet. To be eligible, a nominee must be a full-time Greenwich Public Schools staff member who is a certified teacher. A nominee must have completed at least five years of teaching, three of them in Greenwich. The criteria for identifying a distinguished teacher include, among others, that he/she inspires enthusiasm for learning and academic excellence, elicits a high level of achievement from students in relation to their individual abilities, encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning and demonstrates and continues to pursue a high mastery of subject matter and best practices for instruction. The six teachers selected this year personify the criteria of a Distinguished Teacher.

DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS AWARDS PROGRAM

PROCESSION

Greenwich High School Jazz Ensemble

Welcome

Thomas C. Healy, Principal, Central Middle School

National Anthem

Greenwich High School Jazz Ensemble

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION AND MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Stacy Loveless

Chair, Distinguished Teachers Awards Committee

COMMENTS

Fred Camillo

First Selectman of Greenwich

Ryan Fazio

State Senator

Joe Kelly

Chair, Board of Education

Dr. Toni Jones

Superintendent of Schools

Lillian Perone

President, Greenwich Education Association

PRESENTATION OF 2023 DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS

Nominators of Recipients

*Please join the Distinguished Teachers in the Foyer
after the ceremony for a reception in their honor.*

2022-2023
DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS AWARDS
COMMITTEE

Stacy Loveless, *Chair, Alliance*
Marlene Gilbert, *Vice-Chair/Co-Secretary, Community*
Patricia Carey, *Co-Secretary, Community*

Carolina Ahumada, *Community*
Cathy Brunetti, *Community*
Vikki Cappialli*, *GEA*
Lindsey Eisenstein, *GOSA*
Alejandra Fajardo, *Community*
Kristen Hawreluk, *PTAC*
Katie Hohl DeCarlo, *Community*
Crystal Kitselman*, *GEA*
Laura Kostin, *BOE*
Marie-Elena Liotta, *Community*
Maria Merrill, *Community*
Valerie Rimmer *PTAC*
Linda Shirley, *Community*
De Sorese, *Community*
Judy Soto, *Community*
Lillian Perone, *GEA*

Jonathan Supranowitz, *Ex-Officio*

* Previous Recipients of the Distinguished Teachers Award

DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS 2023

ERIN JOHN

New Lebanon School

Grade 1

GASPARE LIPARI

Western Middle School

English/Seminar/Tech

AARON LOFARO

Central Middle School

Music

JOAN O'DAY

Greenwich High School

Social Worker

CAROL PUGLIANO-MARTIN

New Lebanon School

ALP/Language Arts

MARIA WOODWARD

Central Middle School

Mathematics

NOMINATORS OF RECIPIENTS

LIZ RUTLEDGE

NOMINATED ERIN JOHN

JULIE FARYNIARZ

NOMINATED GASPARE LIPARI

CHRISTINE SURETTE

NOMINATED AARON LOFARO

BIANCA LUPINACCI

NOMINATED JOAN O'DAY

DARINA FOX

NOMINATED CAROL PUGLIANO-MARTIN

CHARLOTTE MAREK

(REPRESENTED BY FAMILY MEMBER)

NOMINATED MARIA WOODWARD



ERIN JOHN

**NEW LEBANON SCHOOL
GRADE 1**

Ms. Erin John has been with Greenwich Public Schools for 11 years, all of which she has spent at New Lebanon School, teaching kindergarten and first grade.

Ms. John firmly believes that school should be a place of inspiration for each and every student, so she strives to create an environment that exemplifies and exudes enthusiasm. “It is my goal to fill each day with sunshine and contagious positivity... I often refer to myself as their coach and remind them that my job is to guide them through their learning and their next steps to grow.”

Ms. John not only helps her students pursue high academic achievement, she helps them to become exemplary members of a classroom family. In her classroom, they learn how their behavior can affect others in a positive or negative way. She believes that at school, everyone has the right to learn and she expects students to take responsibility for their learning and follow our school norms.

Collaboration is one area where Ms. John excels as she believes collaborating with her students is as important as collaboration with her colleagues. She takes the time to speak to previous teachers to gain insight into each student’s learning and help set goals. She also meets daily with her team to discuss how best to deliver instruction.

According to a colleague, one of the characteristics that sets Ms. John apart is her ability to exude greatness and inspire greatness as she believes every single child in her classroom is great, and indeed they are. Additionally, she earns high praise for helping students build confidence, self-esteem, and independence by pushing them to be the best versions of themselves.

Ms. John is a New Lebanon parent volunteer serving on the

PTA Curriculum Enrichment Team. She is also a member of the PBIS/Safe School Climate Team as well as a Magnet Open House Presenter. Since 2013, she has served on the Social Committee. During the planning stages for the new school building, she also served as a member of the New Lebanon School Feasibility Committee.

Ms. John holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and received a College Park Scholars Advocates for Children Program citation. She also holds a Master's Degree in Classroom Technology and a Sixth-Year Diploma in Inclusive Classroom Teaching; Education and Classroom. Prior to coming to Greenwich, she was a First Grade Teacher at Parkway Manor Elementary School in Allentown, Pennsylvania where she was the recipient of the Keystone Technology Integrator Award in 2011.





GASPARE LIPARI

WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH/SEMINAR/TECH

Mr. Gaspare Lipari has been a teacher at Western Middle School for the past 22 years. He has taught Seminar for grades sixth through eighth, seventh and eighth grade Social Studies, and currently, seventh and eighth grade English and Tech A. He is a curious, lifelong learner, who elicits a high level of achievement from all students by creating innovative, inspiring learning experiences with his students every day.

Mr. Lipari believes in challenging his students. He feels that many of his students do not know what they are capable of, but in his classroom, they realize what they can achieve and often surpass even those expectations. He states, “I offer students a partnership in their learning, and my role in that partnership is to keep them moving forward and keep them asking questions and finding answers.”

Outside of the classroom, Mr. Lipari has coached the following teams at Western Middle School: Boys Soccer, Girls Track, Co-ed Volleyball, Baseball, Softball and Girls Basketball. His teams have won many championships and town wide tournaments over the years. He has also coached the WMS Debate Team for the past twenty years, winning and placing in numerous State Debate Tournaments. He feels that these coaching experiences have helped him earn the trust and respect of the students and their families. “Because of that trust and respect, students enter my room with a sense of purpose and they know that when they walk out of my room, something will change. Their confidence will grow, their self-esteem will rise, and they will feel unstoppable.”

Mr. Lipari feels that “traditional education systems have limitations, especially for those students with social, emotional, academic and other disabilities, as well as those students whose means do not afford them opportunities others may have. I discovered, early on, that technology often has the power to offer all students ways of grasping challenging content that is not possible on a handout.” He has attended countless classes, lectures and professional development opportunities to masterfully incorporate AR/VR into the classroom,

and this willingness to adapt to change is a source of inspiration for his colleagues. He applied for and received a grant from the Greenwich Alliance for Education, which allowed him to create a program called Unbound Innovations XR (Augmented & Virtual Reality). With this technology, students are taken away from the distractions and challenges they face, and become fully immersed in their learning environment in Virtual Reality. When schools closed because of COVID during the first year of this grant, Mr. Lipari designed unique ways to reach his students at home using VR/AR “to involve them in social learning environments with no boundaries or limitations, not just for engagement, but for mental health as well.”

Last year, Mr. Lipari designed a unit for his eighth grade XR classes. The goal was to use Virtual Reality to help students with autism learn life skills. He explains “we used VR to reach autistic students and augmented reality to create an innovative interactive display. The project was a model of student engagement and the work they were doing was special. The way our autistic population responded to the lessons they were learning was inspirational.” Mr. Lipari’s class received an award for this work in a Statewide AR competition. “It was an excellent example of what is possible when you offer students a stake in their learning, and offer innovative and inventive opportunities for them to grow.”

Mr. Lipari has made many contributions to Western Middle School and the entire District. He has organized and run WOWfests, and Festival of Learning events at WMS, which are school-wide events celebrating learning and enrichment. For many years he has sat on curriculum committees to create and improve the instruction provided to all Middle School ELA, ALP and Seminar students. He developed a program for students to use Augmented and Virtual Reality for their Capstone Project. He is well respected by his colleagues, as one of them states, “few teachers have embraced the changing educational landscape of the 21st century through the creative and optimistic approach that Gaspare has.”

Mr. Lipari received a BA in English Literature and Sociology, a MA in English Literature and a 6th Year Diploma in Technology.





AARON LOFARO

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC

Mr. Aaron Lofaro teaches grades 6-8 Music (Orchestra) at Central Middle School. He has been teaching in Greenwich Public Schools for 18 years; seven years at North Street/Parkway/ International School at Dundee, three years at Cos Cob/Parkway/Hamilton Avenue and eight years at Central Middle School.

Mr. Lofaro is a powerful advocate for lifting students to a higher standard, challenging them in a way that both honors them and serves them well later in life. In his own words, “Music is a pathway to developing problem solving skills, self-knowledge, collaborative relationships and an appreciation for the arts.” As stated by a colleague, “one only needs to look at the retention rate as his students matriculate to the GHS strings program to see the enthusiasm and passion for music he has infused in them.”

Parents appreciate his teaching style which cultivates lifelong learners. A grateful parent notes, “his room is a safe space to laugh, to suggest alternate techniques in a musical piece and its okay to stand on your chair if it helps you play better.” Considering the diversity of skill level that exists in a middle school orchestra, Mr. Lofaro adeptly reaches every student and supports their pursuit of mastery of their instrument. His nominator adds, “His management style is a wonder to behold. He has very high standards, but always keeps the students engaged and at ease with his humor and creativity, bringing out the best in every student.”

Mr. Lofaro is always looking to make the CMS experience the very best it can be. He often shares ideas for projects, initiatives for improving school climate and opportunities for his students to perform outside of their given class. He understands that school is much more than academics and is an integral participant in forming a connected community. His administrator notes that “Aaron Lofaro is an educator who sees well beyond his content area and recognizes the opportunity to support the growth and development of all students throughout the school.”

Everything about him encourages enthusiasm, optimism and dedication. His colleague adds that “in his 18 years of teaching, I’ve never met another teacher more dedicated to his students than Mr. Lofaro.” Prior to his classes, students are seen eagerly waiting outside his door, excited to be in his class. He spends every free moment working to further the success of his students meeting with them one-on-one before school. He often uses his prep/lunchtime playing and recording individual parts on multiple instruments in order to help students further improve their playing and to instill in them a love and passion for learning and performing.

Mr. Lofaro is an essential member of the district music department, regularly playing with groups for other school performances, concerts, plays and the community at large. He imparts his spirit of community service to his students at CMS bringing small groups to local assisted living homes providing students with a sense of goodwill and leading by example how to make a positive impact in the GPS district and Greenwich community.

How does he face the challenges of teaching? He’s organized, a strong communicator at the student level and beyond, he’s gracious and flexible with moments of humor sprinkled throughout each and every day.

In addition to his ongoing professional development as a member of the Connecticut Music Educators Association and Fairfield County String Teachers Association, Aaron has been the Co-Director of the Town Wide Festival Orchestra for the past three years, serves as Prelude Orchestra Conductor for Norwalk Youth Symphony, directs and conducts the CMS Chamber Orchestra, organizes student performances at River House Center and the library, arranges and records music, mentors other staff members building their portfolios with special software, provides private violin instruction and is a freelance musician throughout Fairfield and Westchester counties.

Mr. Lofaro received a Bachelor’s degree in Music Education, a Master’s degree in Music Education and he continued studies in the Suzuki Method to complete his 6th year certification.





JOAN O'DAY

GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Ms. Joan O'Day has 31 distinguished years in the Greenwich Public Schools.

Ms. O'Day began her GPS career as a special education teacher at the District's ARCH Alternative High School where she spent two years working with students of all grades on various subjects, and then working in a self-contained classroom at Western Middle School for the next two years. For the next six years, her journey at GPS took her to Greenwich High School for the first time, caring and educating students in its self-contained program.

It is then, Ms. O'Day transitioned to a school social worker, mainly at Western MS while spending time at Old Greenwich School, and then finally finding her current home at the school social worker at GHS' Sheldon House.

Ms. O'Day always makes students' needs top priority and is success driven oriented for all her students. This is sometimes not an easy task because some of her services are mandated. But this is not an obstacle for Ms. O'Day! She always seems to meet the challenges head on by having students partner with her, collaboratively writing the students' goals, taking accountability and responsibility as one would in a real-world setting.

Ms. O'Day works tirelessly with other mental health staff in the building and entire district in pursuit of a high mastery of social work subject matter and best practices. She works collaboratively in weekly meetings with her Sheldon House colleagues to tackle challenges and improve achievement for all her students.

She has O'Day has an amazing dedication to the multi-tiered-system of support model designed to intervene early and give targeted support to struggling students.

What sets Ms. O'Day apart as distinguished is her ability to rise above

and do what is best for the student and their families. She has been there in the good times, but more importantly, supported students and their families in the most difficult times. Loss of life, parent illness, and student addictions are just a few difficult life events to deal with and provide comfort and support. Ms. O'Day has always been professional and supportive in all these difficult situations.

One of Ms. O'Day's students wrote, "I never had a role model in my life like her. When I entered high school freshman year, I was on the verge of giving up. Nothing made sense in my life. After working with Ms. O'Day, she saved me!"

Ms. O'Day not only acknowledges students' hard work and accomplishments, but celebrates them big and small. It is hard to find the right words to accurately describe the impact she has had on her students' lives.

"I look forward to the day I can give back Mrs. O'Day gift of changing people's lives," her student added.

Ms. O'Day's colleagues say that Ms. O'Day has the unique ability to cultivate meaningful relationships with students with whom she works with. Every student feels her care and with all the responsibilities she has, she makes every student feel that they are her number one and only priority.

Ms. O'Day's administrators have said they have "whole-hearted, enthusiastic appreciation and are in awe at how deeply and how much of a difference she makes in the lives of students."

"Her commitment to school is phenomenal. She puts in long hours, many times the last to leave the building in the day."

Ms. O'Day's good work reaches far beyond her House students. She collaborates with GHS health educators informing students of the school's our mental health resources.

The most powerful statement that can be said about Ms. O'Day is that she saves lives.





CAROL PUGLIANO-MARTIN

NEW LEBANON SCHOOL ALP/LANGUAGE ARTS

Ms. Carol Pugliano-Martin has been teaching in Greenwich for the last 16 years with the last 11 years at New Lebanon School as an Advanced Learning Program teacher. She is so much more than just the Advanced Learning Program teacher; she is the heart and soul of the Music Program at New Lebanon school where she is able to put her master's in Educational Theater to good use! She has written and published over 100 books including supporting the academic transition to Common Core Standards. If you turn to the appendix, you will notice a very familiar name. With her encouragement New Lebanon fifth graders participated, for the first time ever, in the Battle of the Books tying for third place! Her focus is on the student's potential and not on limitations. Ms. Pugliano-Martin will not be deterred when it comes to enriching the lives of the students that she teaches.

She successfully applied for and received a generous grant which exposes students K-5 to live theater production at the Ridgefield Playhouse with a theater workshop after the show. She passes on her passion and enthusiasm through her fifth-grade musical, theater club for grades K-2 and a Declamation Contest for grades 3-5. Whether it's advocating for a student to continue their ALP learning in middle school or turning her classroom into an Italian restaurant to encourage exploration in reading, Ms. Pugliano-Martin consistently goes above and beyond. Parents credit their children's love of reading to the exposure and encouragement they received in Ms. Pugliano-Martin's class.

A theme throughout is Ms. Pugliano-Martin's constant encouragement and high expectations of the students she works with. As noted by her colleague, "students have an innate sense that Carol 'gets' them and this is nowhere more evident than in the frequent visits by former

students from two, five or even 10 years ago.” It is the students that push her to work hard and explore more avenues of exposure including spearheading a new campaign where students will read various genres of literature and participate in a team competition to choose their favorites.

“If you set the bar high, they will not only meet it, they will jump over it.” – Carol Pugliano-Martin





MARIA WOODWARD

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

“Mrs. Woodward’s classes are some of the most engaging, structured classes I have ever seen in my 22 years of teaching,” recounts Ms. Katherine Zapsky, Maria Woodward’s Central Middle School colleague.

Mrs. Maria Woodward has been teaching seventh grade math at Central Middle School for 17 years and never stops tweaking her curriculum especially in light of the myriad of digital tools that continue to become available to enrich learning for her students. Mrs. Woodward is driven to devote so much energy to her career because she sees the value in education for all. As a high school student, she knew she wanted to become a teacher and help others and carved a path to achieve that dream.

Two recent CMS scholarship award winners returned to speak at CMS and both cited Mrs. Woodward as their all-time favorite CMS teacher. Mrs. Woodward was, indeed, nominated for the Distinguished Teacher recognition by one of her students, Central Middle School eighth grader, Charlotte Marek. Ms. Marek discussed Mrs. Woodward’s ability to build confidence and curiosity in her students and her ability to connect math topics with personal real-life situations. Her lessons sparked Charlotte to think about real life situations and in one case the topic was slope. Charlotte shared with the class the story of her mom falling off a ski lift and how that applied to calculating slope. Charlotte said that Mrs. Woodward’s class “ignited a mathematical spark in me.” As a method to relate to her students more effectively, Mrs. Woodward developed a lesson on multi-step equations using terminology from the Fortnite game. The students felt heard and inspired, and Mrs. Woodward continued to use these terms in other subsequent lessons and units.

Central Middle Principal, Mr. Tom Healy, spoke about Mrs. Woodward’s ability to inspire learning in students by making the learning authentic and meaningful for every student. In one example, students in her grade-level class were invited to a Shopping Challenge, a lesson on simulated shopping at Target, which required the students to think deeply and critically about content while purposefully engaging with peers in pursuit of achievement standards. The unit kept students focused on clear and authentic learning outcomes with

many working well past the end of the period bell.

Mrs. Woodward inspires her students not only with her lessons but in a myriad of other ways. She takes the time to deliver messages of perseverance and positivity to her students. Top performers as measured by performance and effort are rewarded with favorite chrome book stickers. This competition keeps the students engaged and motivated. Mrs. Woodward also took time to decorate the test-taking privacy shields with positive thoughts such as “Mistakes are Proof that You are Trying.” Not only does Mrs. Woodward offer morning and afternoon extra help, but she also developed with colleagues a Saturday Math Academy utilizing the Renaissance learning platform for a group of students to help close any learning gaps and push them to higher standards.

“Mrs. Woodward is the heart, the backbone, the unsung hero of Central Middle School,” proclaimed Ms. Zapsky. Maria Woodward’s contributions to the Central Middle School community extend well beyond the classroom. She initiated and executed several fundraisers and activities for the enrichment of the school community. She helped to collaborate on the first ever Seventh Grade Dance this year which was requested by the students, and also reinitiated the Student v. Teacher Dodgeball Tournament which raised funds for student activities. Mrs. Woodward has served as the Student Council Advisor since 2015 facilitating student-run fundraisers and events that benefit the school and community. The breadth and depth of their fundraisers is quite noteworthy and includes a supply drive to benefit Ukrainians, a Thanksgiving food drive, a snack cart during advisor base led by students, several community child and mental health-related fundraisers and a notable virtual Spirit Week during COVID which reignited enthusiasm and reconnected the staff with the students during a time when they could not physically be together.

Mrs. Woodward was characterized by Mr. Healy as the consummate “school teacher” as defined by George Couros in *The Innovator’s Mindset*. In contrast to a “classroom teacher” who is focused solely on their position and subject matter, Mrs. Woodward is focused on the school as a whole and knows that every child within the school is the responsibility of all staff. What she does in her classroom in one year directly affects what happens to the child later in school and can impact them for life. He wrapped up his comments by saying “her commitment to each child is obvious, her passion for teaching unquestioned, and value to the CMS community immeasurable.”



The Distinguished Teachers Awards Committee wishes to thank the following for their generous contributions:

ORGANIZATIONS:

GREENWICH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (GEA)
GREENWICH ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (GOSA)
MEMBERS OF THE DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS AWARDS COMMITTEE
GREENWICH PTA COUNCIL
GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL PTA
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA
EASTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA
WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA
COS COB SCHOOL PTA
GLENVILLE SCHOOL PTA
HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL PTA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AT DUNDEE PTA
JULIAN CURTISS SCHOOL PTA
NEW LEBANON SCHOOL PTA
NORTH MIANUS SCHOOL PTA
NORTH STREET SCHOOL PTA
OLD GREENWICH SCHOOL PTA
PARKWAY SCHOOL PTA
RIVERSIDE SCHOOL PTA

INDIVIDUALS:

MARTHA AWDZIEWICZ	HARRY B. KROPP
RITA BAKER	CINDY LYALL
CHRISTINE BEGOLE	ALICE NEAL
KAREN BOYEA	EDWARD AND BARBARA OPPEDISANO
ESTHER BUSHELL	JUDY PETERSEN
SUE MORETTI BODSON	LAUREN RABIN
LIBBY CRAIG	MARCIE SCHOENFELD
CRICKET DYMENT	PAIGE AND RYAN SHOCKLEY
ANNE AND ROBERT GILHULY	JANET STROBLE
SARAH GOLDIN	JUDITH WREN
BETH HUGHES	JOANNE ZAMMIT
MARJ KLAR	

DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS 1985 - 2023

2023

Erin John
Gaspere Lipari
Aaron Lofaro
Joan O'Day
Carol Pugliano-Martin
Maria Woodward

2022

Libby Craig
Ryan Jones
Alison Kistler
Tyler Mecozzi*
William Ronk
Darcey Zygmunt

2021

Jennifer Bresler
Jennifer Dunn
Allison Fallon*
Bruce Johnson
Jane Martellino
Susan Zerman

2020

Dace Ashcraft
Barbara Bartlett
Colleen Drumm
Jessica Keller
Erin Montague*
Lori Mulligan

2019

Sean Harriman
Crystal Kitselman*
Katharine Miserochchi
Megan Ostruzka
Chris Anne Powers
Karrie Vale

2018

Karen Ball
Lisa Giometti
Michele Giorlando DeRosa*
Frank Kovac
Eleanor Ritch
Meagan White

2017

Stephen Babyak
Victoria Cappiali
Michael Galatioto
Erin Randall
Bridget Suvansri*
Diane Taylor

2016

Ana Chejin-Danielsen
Julie Cofone
Sarah Goldin*
Sarah Harris
Jeannine Madoff
Ian Tiedemann

2015

Cathy Byrne
Richard Crawford
Luz Desrouilleres
Maryann Franchella*
Maryann Jagodzinski
Diana Willie

2014

Mara Adelsberg
Cheryl Iozzo*
Sheri McGowan
James M. Micik
Robert Walsh
Lin Yuan Young

2013

Cecilia Aita
Jennifer Benoit
Melissa Macchio Brown*
Stephen Kinner
Esra Murray
Mary Beth Smith

2012

Christine Begole
Andrew Bramante*
Richard Kurtzman
Elizabeth Manning
Barbara Brennan Oxer
Cynthia Sherwin

^ *In Memoriam*

* *GPS Connecticut Teacher of the Year Representative (2002-2022)*

National Teacher of the Year (2002-2022)

2011

Karen Boyea*
 Meredith Daniels
 Laura Donnelly
 Karen Foster
 Nan Nelson
 Jennifer Preli

2008

Karen Anderson
 Rita Clair
 Camille Fusco
 Arianne Haley-Banez
 Christine Kovac
 Anthony Mullen*#

2005

Mary Fike
 Diane Garofalo
 Cathy Mayo
 Gene Schmidt
 Patrick Taylor
 Julie Wang*

2002

Margot Bittenbender
 Jean Di Vincenzo*
 Mariko Iwai
 Georgia Tedla
 Curtis Tipton
 John Whalen

1999

Kenneth Alcorn
 A. Ray Hamilton
 Patricia Kohn
 Frederic Stewart
 Carole Tierney
 Doreen Zahn

2010

Alison Allerton
 Jessica Baker
 Rita Baker*
 Charill Pierce
 Kathleen Steiner
 Sheri Lyn Wollard

2007

Phyllis Dale
 Karen Maher-Cochran*
 Mary Ann Murray
 Christina Shaw
 Gloria Sprigg
 Dana Tulotta

2004

Andrea Abbott
 Rae Baczek
 Elaine Casale
 Karen Nagy
 Alice Neal
 Jonathan Smith*

2001

Michael Batcheller
 Alisa Lewis
 Jane Niwa
 Kathryn Onofrio
 Susan Whalen
 John Yoon

1998

Nancy-Anne Fitzgibbons
 Ledell Mulvaney
 Mary Pierce
 Barbara Schutzman
 Steve Rosenberg
 Judith Fell Woods

2009

Gretchen Crandall
 Kathleen Harbort
 Anne Haymon
 Aaron Hull
 Susan Tracey*
 Judith Wren

2006

Nan Barrett
 Liz Black
 William Bogardus*
 Charles DiSapio
 Karen Harris
 Robert Wilson^

2003

Donna Conway
 Mark Epstein
 Courtney Hawes
 Brenda Macri^
 Karen Riordan
 Medard Thomas

2000

Susan Batcheller
 Valerie Bolling
 Barbara O'Neill
 Francis Pierce II^
 Susan Striker
 Louise Williamson

1997

Emma Oberheuser
 Susan Valenzi
 Dwight Wall
 Erica Wiberg
 Joanne Zammit
 Robert Zapor

^ *In Memoriam*

* *GPS Connecticut Teacher of the Year Representative (2002-2022)*

National Teacher of the Year (2002-2022)

1999

Kenneth Alcorn
A. Ray Hamilton
Patricia Kohn
Frederic Stewart
Carole Tierney
Doreen Zahn

1996

Christine Anderson
Joan Beiser
William Dinnean
Carolyn Gilbert
Barbara Gotch
Carol Sutton

1993

Jory Lockwood
Gail Montgomery^
Philip Nobile
Sara Reilly
Candace Robinson
Janet Stroble

1990

Joan Lowe
Terrence Lowe
Julie Machen
Mary Seitzer
Lee Spong
Steve Wallerstein

1987

Esther Bushell
Christine Gunn
Jeanette Hotchkiss^
George Mathes
Anne Modugno
Harold Trachtenberg^

1998

Nancy-Anne Fitzgibbons
Ledell Mulvaney^
Mary Pierce
Barbara Schutzman
Steve Rosenberg
Judith Fell Woods

1995

Daniel Barrett
Anne Gilhuly
Chris Kazanas
Susan Lickwar
Judith Petersen
Caralliene Westbrook

1992

John Boyton
Jane Carlin
Susan Hart
Dena Phelps^
Carmel Signa^
Martha Taylor

1989

Joel Adelberg
Dolores Kenny
Ralph Pettie^
Richard Piotrkowski
Carol Rosenberg
Ardith Williams

1986

Elizabeth Hughes
Shirle Jankowich^
Mary Livezey^
Marilyn Maxwell
David Ross
Lynn Washington

1997

Emma Oberheuser
Susan Valenzi
Dwight Wall^
Erica Wiberg
Joanne Zammit
Robert Zapor

1994

Frank Arnone
Lissa Bentley
Victor Mazmanian
Paul Rosenblum
Marcie Schoenfeld
Jerry Snyder^

1991

Brigid Barry
William Bechem
Elinor Carr^
Richard Kohn
Jane Kahn
Camilla Rogers

1988

Martha Awdziejewicz
Carmelita Brooks^
Marjorie Klar
Harry Kropp
Kenneth Lyon
Lorraine Termini

1985

Ellwood Autuori^
Kathy Barnes^
Josephine Frame
Lois Hebert
Barbara Lewis
Betsy Perna-Smith

^ *In Memoriam*

* *GPS Connecticut Teacher of the Year Representative (2002-2022)*

National Teacher of the Year (2002-2022)

CRITERIA FOR IDENTIFYING DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS

- Inspires enthusiasm, expects students to take responsibility for their own learning and elicits a high level of achievement from students in relation to their individual abilities
- Demonstrates and continues to pursue a high mastery of subject matter and best practices for instruction
- Earns the respect of students, parents and colleagues
- Communicates effectively with parents and students
- Collaborates and makes contributions to improve overall student achievement within the classroom
- Makes contributions to improve the school and/or the District beyond the classroom



DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS AWARDS

Celebrating Excellence