



LEE COUNTY

SCHOOL SYSTEM

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOHN WANNER VOTED AS THE GEORGIA CONSTRUCTION READY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Leesburg, GA -- Lee County High School's John Wanner was voted by Georgia's Construction Ready organization as the 2023 Teacher of the Year. Mr. Wanner will be honored at the Construction Ready Champion Awards Ceremony breakfast in Atlanta. This is the fifth year for the awards program.

Mr. Wanner has been teaching for 11 years with a previous, extensive background in residential construction. "I am surprised and overwhelmed by the recognition and support from Construction Ready and my peers at Lee County High School", Mr. Wanner says. "My heartbeat is for changing the lives of my students and leaving Southwest Georgia a little better than when I got here."

Construction Ready is a not-for-profit organization that offers fully funded construction job training programs with industry partnerships that enhance getting great-paying jobs after

training completion. The training and credentials earned by students are foundational in the world of construction.

As the Director for Program Support at Construction Ready, Dean Cutler shares his sentiments regarding this year's Teacher of the Year recipient. "An eleven year veteran teacher from Lee County High School (LCHS), John Wanner sets a high bar for himself, his students, and his program. To illustrate his passion and tenacity for equipping his students for success, John had over 30 students participate in his signing day. Many of these students committed to postsecondary education while others elected to enter the workforce. His commitment to young people is best exemplified when he stepped up to keep the welding program going at LCHS when the [previous] instructor left. Not once did he say that he didn't have time to take on this extra responsibility. Taking students to competitions and leadership events are parts of his job that never go undone. John Wanner's commitment of service to his students and his program make him a perfect candidate for the 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year."

"I'd like to express my profound appreciation for Mr. Wanner and his dedicated contributions to our construction program, Lee County High School, and the broader community", states Mr. Jodie Knight, Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Director. "Mr. Wanner's unparalleled commitment to teaching, mentoring, and creating opportunities for our students is commendable. This well-deserved award serves as a testament to his passion and dedication to preparing students for successful careers in the construction industry, both during their time in high school and beyond. I would also like to take time to appreciate and say thanks to our school administration, system administration, our Superintendent, Dr. Truitt, and the Lee County Board of Education for the tremendous support and commitment to providing the best opportunities possible for our students and teachers in CTAE."

Lee County High School's principal, Dr. Karen Hancock, is very proud of Mr. Wanner. "Mr. Wanner's award is a testament to the passion and hard work he pours into his work every day. I am genuinely proud to be associated with him, and I look forward to witnessing the continued positive influence he has on future generations. Well done!"

Congratulations John Wanner! You are certainly a champion and this honor is well-deserved.

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About Lee County Schools:

The Lee County School System is a GA public Pre-K - 12 school district that fosters relationships through diverse, challenging & quality educational experiences that cultivate successful citizens. For more information about LCSS, go to www.lee.k12.ga.us or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/leecountyschoolsystem or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/leecountyschool or on Instagram at www.instagram.com/leecountyschools.