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Warren County Educator Kaity Castleman Wins Middle Tennessee Grand Division Teacher of the Year

McMinnville, Tenn. —Warren County Schools is thrilled to announce Kaity Castleman, 4th grade teacher from Hickory Creek Elementary School, as the 2024-25 Middle Tennessee Grand Division Teacher of the Year. Castleman received this award during the 65th Anniversary of the Tennessee Teacher of the Year celebration held by the Tennessee Department of Education Friday night.

"I am so incredibly honored to be recognized as the Middle Grand Division winner for Tennessee," said Castleman. "This recognition is the highlight of my teaching career. I wouldn't be here today without the love and support of my family, friends and colleagues. More importantly, my students; they are the reason I do what I do. Students are the driving force of all that I do."

Castleman's remarkable dedication to her students and her unwavering commitment to educational excellence have earned her recognition not only in our community but across the entire state. This accolade places her among the top educators in Tennessee, celebrating her significant contributions to student achievement and her leadership within the educational field.

As the Middle Tennessee Grand Division winner, Castleman will continue to serve as an inspiration and advocate for effective teaching practices, representing the voice of teachers through her involvement in the Tennessee Teacher Advisory Council. This will provide her the opportunity to regularly engage with multiple state agencies throughout the year, including the Tennessee Department of Education.

"I want to continue to grow as an educator, and teach and inspire students to be their best," added Castleman. "Along with this, I'm excited to become a member of the Teacher Advisory Council (TAC). I hope to be able to represent students and teachers across Middle Tennessee, and I'm ready to help shape policies and bring a positive light to education across the state."

"We are beyond proud of Kaity Castleman," said Dr. Grant Swallows, Director of Schools. "Her passion for teaching and her ability to inspire students every day make her an invaluable asset to our district and to the field of education as a whole. This recognition is well-deserved, and we look forward to seeing her continue to engage and lead students in her classroom."

Castleman's achievement is not only a personal triumph but also a reflection of the standards of education upheld by Warren County Schools. Her recognition at the state level highlights the

exceptional quality of teaching within our district and underscores our commitment to fostering an environment where both educators and students can thrive.

About Warren County Schools:

Warren County Schools is dedicated to providing a supportive and challenging educational environment that fosters academic excellence and prepares students for future success.

Through a commitment to innovation, community engagement, and the professional growth of our educators, Warren County Schools strives to be a leader in education both locally and statewide.

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