

CROCKETT'S FIVE DISTRICT SCHOOLS NAME THEIR TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

By Ron Barry

The Crockett County School District is only as good as its basic foundation: the teachers who are on the front line every day with the children.

As the fall semester of the 2024-25 school year ends, each of the five schools in the District has selected one extraordinary educator as its Teacher of the Year.

Today we introduce those five special teachers to you, along with a comment or two from administrators at the various schools.

Crockett County High School: Lori Shelton, English 4

Heather Harris, Assistant Principal: "Lori Shelton inspires all of us at CCHS because she makes such an impact on students both in and out of the classroom. She often goes the extra mile to help her students succeed. Lori exemplifies compassion and dedication and is an invaluable part of our team. We are so very thankful for her."

Mary Kate Gourley, Assistant Principal: "Ms. Lori has high expectations for her students while building a relationship with them. Her students know she cares about them as a person. She is also a team player, wanting what is best for our school system."

Crockett County Middle School: Jennifer Baker, 7th Grade ELA

Ashley Dodd, Assistant Principal: "Mrs. Jennifer is simply amazing! She challenges her students daily to do their best and every student in her classes knows that they are loved. She genuinely cares for her students and co-workers. She goes above and beyond every day and CCMS is lucky to have her.!"

Friendship Elementary School: Teresa Craig, 4th/5th Grade ELA

Leah Camp, Principal: "Teresa Craig may be new to Friendship Elementary, but she is not new to teaching. Mrs. Craig brings years of experience and an unwavering love for her students to the classroom each day. Her students describe her as 'nice, fun, caring, confident, peaceful, beautiful, wonderful, powerful, smart, and strong,' and I could not agree more. She comes in early and stays late most days. She is always willing to jump in and lend a helping hand. Mrs. Craig teaches from the heart each day and genuinely cares about her students. She teaches her students not just the curriculum, but what it means to be a good person in the world. She spoils the staff with her culinary skills, kindness, and humor as well. We are so appreciative and thankful she chose to join the FES family."

Gadsden Elementary School: Chelsea Denton, 1st Grade

Marsha Foust, Principal: "Mrs. Chelsea gives 100 per cent every day in everything she does, whether it is instructing students, building relationships, leading a PLC, or organizing a school event. She is enthusiastic, energetic, and makes learning fun for all of her students."

Maury City Elementary School: Lindsey Massey, 4th Grade Math/Science

Christine Schwartz, Principal: "Lindsey is a outstanding educator who demonstrates an unwavering commitment to her students and their success. She works tirelessly, communicates effectively, and approaches teaching with a positive, caring attitude. Her warm and nurturing nature creates a supportive environment for students who need extra care and attention. Lindsey is particularly gifted in working with students who require additional patience and 'wait time' to fully develop their skills. Her students consistently share glowing feedback about her ability to teach math in an engaging and clear way. Lindsey not only builds strong rapport with each student but also sets high expectations, encouraging them to excel while maintaining a positive and loving classroom atmosphere. Her dedication to her students is evident in her remarkable test results, which reflect the effectiveness of her teaching strategies. Lindsey truly cares about the well-being and growth of her students. Her passion for teaching, her ability to make learning enjoyable, and her outstanding math scores are just a few of the many reasons why she is deserving of the Teacher of the Year award. She inspires confidence and fosters a love for learning in every student she works with."



Above: Lori Shelton -- Crockett County High School (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Jennifer Baker -- Crockett County Middle School (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Teresa Craig, Friendship Elementary School (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Chelsea Denton, Gadsden Elementary School (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Lindsey Massey, Maury City Elementary School (Photo by Ron Barry)