

# **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY**

**Wednesday, April 30, 2025**  
**Carroll County Career and Technology Center**





**PROGRAM**

Welcome .....*Cynthia McCabe, Ed.D.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Presentation of Awards for Years of Service ..... *Nicholas Shockney*  
*Assistant Superintendent of Instruction*

Presentation of Employee Recognition Awards..... *Nicholas Shockney*  
*Assistant Superintendent of Instruction*

Rita Board Dowd Awards for Outstanding Carroll County School Administrators  
..... *Nicholas Shockney*  
*Assistant Superintendent of Instruction*

Carroll County Teacher of the Year .....*Cynthia McCabe, Ed.D.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Closing Comments .....*Cynthia McCabe, Ed.D.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

*A special thank you to the Carroll County Career and Technology Center for hosting this evening's employee recognition ceremony and to the Baking and Pastry Culinary Program students and Mrs. Brittany Koch for providing this evening's refreshments.*

*This ceremony is being videotaped and will be available for viewing at a later date on the CCPS YouTube channel and CETV Channel 21.*



## YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

*Presented by Nicholas Shockney, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction*

***Congratulations to our employees who are being recognized for 25 or more years of service to Carroll County Public Schools as of June 20, 2024.***

### 25 Years of Service

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>
Edie Abbott	School Counselor	Cranberry Station Elementary School
Crystal Arndt	Mentor Teacher	Runnymede Elementary School
Terri Beard	Occupational Therapist	Birth-5 Special Education
Ellen Becker	Construction Planning Manager	School Construction
Brigitte Boone	Art Teacher	Westminster Elementary School
Deborah Bosley	Reading Teacher	Shiloh Middle School
Elaine Bowen	Kindergarten Teacher	Linton Springs Elementary School
Erin Brillhart	Principal	Sykesville Middle School
Jennifer Cherneski	5th Grade Teacher	Carrolltowne Elementary School
Lisa Costas	Cafeteria Worker	Elmer Wolfe Elementary School
Mark Digby	Biology Teacher	Manchester Valley High School
Elizabeth Donovan	Assistant Principal	Winters Mill High School
Christina Dougherty	Principal	South Carroll High School
Paul Eyer	5th Grade Teacher	Spring Garden Elementary School
Jason Fritch	Physics Teacher	Liberty High School
Diane Giannaccini	Reading Special Education Consultant	Special Education
Diane Haddad	English Teacher	Mt. Airy Middle School
Michael Hardesty	Director of Transportation	Transportation Services
Nancy Hawkinberry	Instrumental Music Teacher	Sandymount Elementary School
David Hutchison	Print Production Teacher	Career and Technology Center
Laurie Jones	1st Grade Teacher	Eldersburg Elementary School
Misti Kelly	Outdoor School Teacher	Outdoor School
Jennifer Kempf	School Counselor	Winters Mill High School
Aimee Kilgore	Behavior Support Specialist	Student Services
Eric Klezer	Mathematics Teacher	South Carroll High School
Adrienne Korman	English Teacher	Francis Scott Key High School
Stacy Kowaleviocz	Assistant Principal	Sandymount Elementary School
Kristin Kreit	ESOL Resource Teacher	Curriculum and Instruction
Joann Lawson	Reading Teacher	East Middle School
Richard McCraw	Custodian	Sykesville Middle School
Alethea Miller	High School Facilitator - Student Support	Francis Scott Key High School
Erin Murphey	Physical Education Teacher	Mechanicsville Elementary School
Josephine Murphy	English Teacher	Gateway School
Linda Murphy	Earth Science Teacher	Sykesville Middle School
Christine Myers	Special Education Assistant	Sykesville Middle School
Andrea Perhach	Special Education Resource Teacher	Northwest Middle School

David Pittinger	Driver	Plant Operations
Mary Reed	Mathematics Teacher	Gateway School
Katherine Rudy	Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher	Manchester Valley High School
Matthew Ruhlman	Mathematics Teacher	West Middle School
Julie Sawyers	Occupational Therapist	Elmer Wolfe Elementary School
Nathalie Schein	School Secretary	Hampstead Elementary School
Melinda Sears	Speech Pathologist	Winfield Elementary School
Steven Shoup	Pupil Personnel Worker	Student Services
Sao-Fan Treat	General Music Teacher	Spring Garden Elementary School
Michael Yount	School Counselor	Sandymount Elementary School
Michele Ziegler	Math Resource Teacher	Spring Garden Elementary School

### 30 Years of Service

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>
Chanda Blizzard	Building Supervisor	Mt. Airy Elementary School
Steven Findeisen	Social Studies Teacher	Manchester Valley High School
John Fitzgerald	Math Resource Teacher	Westminster Elementary School
Michael Flemming	English Teacher	Westminster High School
Robert Frizzell	Lead Painter	Plant Maintenance
Kelly Gray-Pocasangre	3rd Grade Teacher	Winfield Elementary School
Katherine Green	Supervisor of Student Services - Student Support	Student Services
Amy Gromada	Director of Middle Schools	School Directors Office
Rona Haddaway	4th Grade Teacher	Manchester Elementary School
David Herman	Principal	Francis Scott Key High School
Christopher Howard	Mathematics Teacher	Winters Mill High School
Beverly Jordan	School Counselor	Century High School
Steven Krouse	Physical Education Teacher	Cranberry Station Elementary School
Janet Long	Cafeteria Manager	Robert Moton Elementary School
Michele Novak	Art Teacher	Oklahoma Road Middle School
Kimberly Rees	Instrumental Music Teacher	Manchester Elementary School
Patricia Schweinsberg	Instructional Assistant	Francis Scott Key High School
Bryan Shumaker	Principal	Outdoor School
Karen Soltis	Science Teacher	Oklahoma Road Middle School
Virginia Street	Custodian	Robert Moton Elementary School
Antonina Wallace	Early Intervention Consultant	Birth-5 Special Education
Wayne Whalen	Supervisor of Special Education - Compliance	Special Education
Rowena Whitehead	Special Education Assistant	Sykesville Middle School
Heather Whitten	Reading Teacher	Mt. Airy Middle School

### 35 Years of Service

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>
Patricia Block	2nd Grade Teacher	Spring Garden Elementary School
Freddie Carter	Shift Foreman	Oklahoma Road Middle School
Dawn Cunningham	1st Grade Teacher	Manchester Elementary School
Pamela Goodson	3rd Grade Teacher	Spring Garden Elementary School
Donna Martin	Instructional Assistant	Manchester Elementary School
Teresa Pittinger	Special Education Assistant	North Carroll Middle School
Michael Quealy	Security Assistant	Francis Scott Key High School
Ruth Arney	Director's Secretary	Special Education

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

*Presented by Nicholas Shockney, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction*

#### **Christine Bechtel, Supervisor of Special Education – Middle Schools**

Christine was selected to receive the Ralph Edwards Diversity and Social Impact Award presented by TASH, an international leader in Disability Awareness. She was selected for the award based on her long history focusing on cultural competency, diversity, intersectionality, and social impact, as well her leadership and commitment to assuring that TASH's work to build inclusive and equitable communities prioritizes those populations who have been chronically underserved, undervalued, and chronically marginalized.

#### **Kathryn Berling, Library Media Specialist, Taneytown Elementary School**

Kathryn was named the 2024 Maryland School Librarian of the Year. This esteemed award recognizes exemplary service and outstanding contributions to the field of school library media.

#### **Tim Blizzard, Applied Mechanical Engineering Teacher, Carroll County Career and Technology Center**

Tim was named a Maryland Manufacturing Star in Carroll County by the Regional Manufacturing Institute of Maryland. He was recognized for his significant contributions to the manufacturing career and technical education program, as well as his commitment to student success, active involvement with engineering and technology business partners, and leadership in the community.

#### **Angie De Guzman, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Ebb Valley Elementary School**

Angie received the 2025 Elementary Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award presented by the Maryland Council for Social Studies. Angie engages students, helping them develop historical perspectives and a deeper understanding of history from the early settlers to the Revolutionary War, and also is committed to curriculum development and instructional leadership.

#### **Melissa Doan, School Counselor, Westminster Elementary School**

Melissa received the Elementary School Counselor of the Year award from the Maryland School Counselor Association. Melissa prioritizes building relationships and fostering communication while approaching each student with sincerity, non-judgment, and compassion. She is truly dedicated to helping students and families within Carroll County overcome their challenges and reach their full potential.

#### **Kate Flint, Advanced Academics Specialist, Shiloh and West Middle Schools**

Kate was honored as the Maryland Humanities Carroll County Public Schools Teacher of Year for Maryland History Day. Each year, a history day teacher from each county at the Maryland State Contest is recognized for going above and beyond to encourage and support student participation in the local and state History Day contests.

**Emma Harris, Social Studies Teacher, East Middle School**

Emma was named the 2024 Maryland History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. This prestigious award recognizes exceptional elementary through high school teachers for their outstanding contributions to American history education.

**Gordon Kinnie, Networking Technology Teacher, Carroll County Career and Technology Center**

Gordon received the Instructor Excellence Expert Level Award presented by the Cisco Network Academy. This award recognizes the contributions of the top 10% of instructors in the Academy based on learner success and course feedback and celebrates the skills, experience, and expertise of instructors who deliver impactful educational experiences for learners.

**Bruce Lesh, Supervisor of Elementary Social Studies**

Bruce was selected to receive the James Harvey Robinson Prize by the American Historical Association for his teaching aid entitled *Developing Historical Thinkers: Supporting Historical Inquiry for All Students*. This prize is awarded biennially for a teaching aid which has made the most outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning of history.

**Glen Messier, Principal, Linton Springs Elementary School**

Glen was the recipient of the Opening Doors Award presented by The American Heart Association. This national award recognizes outstanding contributions to the Association's in-school programs Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge. The award celebrates those who excelled in fundraising, brought innovation to the in-school initiatives, and led the programs with passion.

**Pamela Mesta, Supervisor of ESOL**

Pam received a 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Maryland Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Association. This award is presented to individuals who have been working in the TESOL field in Maryland for at least 15 years and who have made substantial and exemplary contributions to the field, its students, and/or teachers at any educational level. Pam also was the recipient of the 2024 "Caroline Allen Leadership Award" which is presented by the Pennsylvania Coalition for Parent Involvement to an individual who is a leader in family-school-community partnerships.

**Erika Safford, General Music Teacher, Carroll Springs School**

**Brian Thompson, Instrumental Music Teacher, Westminster Elementary School**

Erika and Brian were selected to receive the Maryland Music Education Association's Outstanding Music Educators Award. This award celebrates music educators for their exceptional service to students in public, private, and independent schools throughout Maryland.

**Amey Sanders, Advanced Academics Specialist, Linton Springs and Eldersburg Elementary Schools**

**Karen Stump, Advanced Academics Specialist, Carrolltowne and Piney Ridge Elementary Schools**

Amey and Karen received honorable mention in the Local School Influencers for Gifted and Talented Education award category from the Maryland Gifted and Talented Advisory Council. They created new math overlays that expand math extensions for gifted and advanced students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades that provide teachers with differentiated options to extend learning.

**Lauren Stevens, Science Teacher, Manchester Valley High School**

Lauren was recognized as one of Maryland's six finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The awards recognize teachers in the STEM and computer science technology fields who have both deep content knowledge of the subjects they teach and the ability to motivate and enable students to be successful in those areas.

**Erin Turfle, Special Education Teacher, Winfield Elementary School**

Erin was selected to receive the Special Education Professional of the Year Award presented by The ARC Carroll County. This award honors an education professional who has demonstrated excellence in providing quality educational opportunities and advocacy for students with developmental or intellectual disabilities.

**Major Agatha Vogelgesang, Earth Science Teacher, Shiloh Middle School**

Agatha was named the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year for the Maryland Wing and won the Mid-Atlantic Region Annual Award. This award recognizes and rewards a CAP member who is a certified K-12 teacher for outstanding accomplishments in aerospace/STEM education.

**Vicki Wiliuszis, Technology Education Teacher, South Carroll High School**

Vicki was recognized by the Maryland Center for Computing Education for her contribution to the development of the Middle School Computer Science Standards Annotations. As a member of the team that developed the annotations, Vicki helped define the essential skills and questions of the standards and craft clear explanations that made the standards accessible to both students and educators.

**Dawn Zepp, Cafeteria Manager, Mt. Airy and Parr's Ridge Elementary Schools and Mt. Airy Middle School**

Dawn was named Maryland State School Nutrition Manager of the Year by the Maryland School Nutrition Association. Dawn creates a friendly environment for students, staff, and employees at the school cafeterias she manages. Her initiatives to ensure all children are treated the same regardless of ability to pay at the register led to a formalized donation account that helps all families who struggle with school meal debt in all Carroll County Public Schools.

**Special Recognitions**

These school employees, along with two of our School Resource Officers, went above and beyond to provide direct lifesaving measures for students who experienced critical medical emergencies while at school.

**Carroll Springs School**

Nancy Gillespie, School Nurse  
Karen St. Andre, School Nurse

**Manchester Valley High School**

Deputy Kyle Barget, School Resource Officer  
Jennifer Cuffley, Special Education Teacher  
Joseph Ditzel, Custodian  
Julie Lee, School Nurse

**West Middle School**

Matt Cahill, Physical Education Teacher  
Deputy Tyler Jones, School Resource Officer  
Julie Kellar, Physical Education Teacher  
Bo Williams, School Nurse

**RITA BOARD DOWD AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING  
CARROLL COUNTY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS**

***Presented by Nicholas Shockney, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction***

**NOMINEES**

***Assistant Principals***

*Michele Becker, Taneytown Elementary School*

*Daniel Black, Shiloh Middle School*

*Joseph Fankibi, West Middle School*

*Michael Golden, Northwest Middle School*

*Christy Kennedy, South Carroll High School*

*Melissa Lombardini, Winfield Elementary School*

*Andrew Mann, Oklahoma Road Middle School*

*Alissa Narcross, Northwest Middle School*

*Morgan Pratt, Piney Ridge Elementary School*

*Mary Rivera, Winters Mill High School*

*Noah Scholl, East Middle School*

*Kristina Shepperd, Elmer Wolfe Elementary School*

*Cindy Taylor, Freedom Elementary School*

*Lois Tiffany, Manchester Valley High School*

***Principals***

*Addison Beck, Hampstead Elementary School*

*Brian Booz, Winters Mill High School*

*Christina Dougherty, South Carroll High School*

*Rebecca Dupree, Carrolltowne Elementary School*

*David Herman, Francis Scott Key High School*

*Wendy Leishear, Spring Garden Elementary School*

*Katie Nefflen, Westminster High School*

*Katherine Purper, Winfield Elementary School*

*Jessica Smith, Freedom Elementary School*

*Jodi Weaver, Northwest Middle School*

**2025 CARROLL COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS**

***Presented by Cynthia McCabe, Ed.D., Superintendent***

***Leslie Bollinger***

*PreK-5 Mentor Teacher  
Cranberry Station Elementary School*

***Jerome Georgiana***

*Physical Education Teacher  
Crossroads Middle School*

***Amy Glascock***

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade Humanities (ELA and Social Studies) Teacher  
Winfield Elementary School*

***Jennifer Goffena***

*Mathematics Resource Teacher  
Shiloh Middle School*

***Kristy Groomes***

*6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher  
North Carroll Middle School*

***Todd Hartshorn***

*Social Studies Teacher  
Manchester Valley High School*

***Margaret Mayberry***

*Social Studies Teacher  
Winters Mill High School*

***Jami Robinson***

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Humanities (ELA and Social Studies) Teacher  
Runnymede Elementary School*

## THANK YOU!

A special thank you to the following businesses and organizations for their generosity in donating the gifts presented to our Teacher of the Year this evening.

*Bee Sweet*

*Bier Bath Spa and Alehouse*

*Captain Dan's Crabhouse*

*Carroll Arts Center*

*Carroll Community College*

*Carroll County Economic Development*

*Carroll County Farm Museum*

*Carroll County Public Library*

*Chicken Salad Chick*

*Downtown Sykesville Connection*

*Elderberry Cabin*

*EW Beck's Restaurant and Pub*

*Exploration Commons*

*First Financial Federal Credit Union*

*Flood Zone*

*Frederick Keys Baseball*

*Greenmount Station*

*Hilton Garden Inn*

*Historical Society of Carroll County*

*Information Pathways*

*JeannieBird Baking Company*

*Jersey Mike's*

*Jiffy Lube*

*Lawn Doctor*

*Legacy Septic*

*McDaniel College*

*NR Adventure Park*

*Park Books on Main*

*Placing Seniors with Families*

*Planet Fitness*

*Preston Motors*

*ProMD Health*

*Pub Dog*

*Restore/Habitat for Humanity*

*S&K Roofing*

*Samsara Spa*

*Sun Nurseries*

*The County Cork Wine Pub*

*The French Twist Café*

*Todd and Kelly Frager*

*Twin Arch Tavern*

*Westminster Car Wash and Detailing*

*Westminster Lawn Service*



