

Elizabeth Jenkins Named Hampton Elementary's 2025–2026 District Teacher of the Year!

Hampton, SC — August 29, 2025 — If you've ever walked into Elizabeth Jenkins's classroom at Hampton Intermediate School, you've probably heard laughter, lively discussion, and the unmistakable buzz of students deeply engaged in learning. That's because Jenkins doesn't just teach; she transforms her classroom into a hub of collaboration, creativity, and community. And now, she's being honored as Hampton County School District's 2025–2026 District Teacher of the Year!

With a heart full of passion, Jenkins teaches all subjects to 5th graders, but her real superpower is merging classroom learning and communication skills. Whether her students are building anchor charts, collaborating in small groups discussions, or diving into deep research, they're not just learning, they're learning *together*. And it's working: last year, 72% of her students met or exceeded state ELA standards!

"I love the power of communication and collaboration," Jenkins says. "When students learn to listen, speak respectfully, and build on each other's ideas, they don't just grow academically—they grow as people."

Outside the classroom, Jenkins is just as dedicated. She's served as the HIS Summer School Coordinator, led the Girls Club, and is a proud member of the School Improvement Council. She's also the 5th Grade Lead Teacher, mentoring colleagues and sharing resources like a true team player.

But her impact goes far beyond lesson plans. Jenkins is known for showing up—at games, festivals, tournaments, and even in moments of personal need. One thing about Mrs. Jenkins that impressed the Teacher of the Year selection committee is that one year, she quietly stepped in to help a family struggling to afford school supplies, reminding us all that teaching is about heart as much as it is about homework.

Her summer learning camp, launched in her hometown with help from Hampton colleagues, is just one more example of her 'teach-anywhere' spirit. One student even mastered a math concept in class thanks to what they learned at camp!

"Students are at the center of everything I do," Jenkins says. "Their success is my success, and I'm here to cheer them on every step of the way."

Hampton County School District is proud to celebrate Elizabeth Jenkins, not just for her achievements, but for the joy, care, and excellence she brings to every student, every day.

Congratulations again to Mrs. Elizabeth Jenkins, Hampton County School District Teacher of the Year!