ESC 19 | raiz™ Federal Credit Union

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

AUGUST 14, 2026

AT THE STARLIGHT EVENT CENTER
6650 CONTINENTAL DRIVE

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90 years

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DR. ARMANDO AGUIRRE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER • REGION 19

ESTEEMED GUESTS AND HONOREES,

It is both an honor and a privilege to welcome you to the 2026–2027 ESC Region 19 Teacher of the Year Awards Celebration. Tonight, we gather to recognize and celebrate a remarkable group of educators whose dedication, compassion, and commitment to students make a lasting difference in our schools and communities every day.

Our theme, "Ready to Shine into the Future," reflects an exciting moment in education. We are living in a time of rapid change, where latest technologies, including artificial intelligence, are transforming how we teach, learn, and prepare students for the opportunities ahead. Yet as much as education continues to evolve, one thing remains constant: the extraordinary impact of a great teacher.

The 20 educators we honor this evening represent the absolute best of our profession. They inspire curiosity, encourage perseverance, and help students discover strengths they may not yet see in themselves. They embrace innovation while never losing sight of what matters most; the human connection that exists between teacher and student. Technology may open new doors, but it is teachers who guide students through them.

Every day, these educators invest their time, talents, and hearts into helping young people succeed. They celebrate victories, provide encouragement during challenges, and create classrooms where students feel valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. Their influence extends far beyond academic achievement; they help shape character, confidence, and hope for the future.

The success of our schools throughout Region19 is a reflection of the dedication found in classrooms across El Paso and Hudspeth counties. Our students continue to achieve at high levels because of educators who believe in them, challenge them, and inspire them to dream bigger. We are equally grateful for the leadership of our superintendents, administrators, school boards, families, and community partners who work alongside our teachers to support student success.

Tonight is about celebration, gratitude, and recognition. It is about honoring educators who have chosen a profession that changes lives and strengthens communities. Whether you are a nominee, family member, colleague, administrator, or guest, thank you for being part of this special evening. To our Teacher of the Year honorees: thank you for your passion, your leadership, and your unwavering belief in the potential of every student. You stand for the best of Region19, and we are proud to celebrate you. Your work matters, your impact is immeasurable, and your light continues to shine brightly into the future.
Congratulations, and enjoy this well-deserved celebration.

TOY 2026-2027

ELEMENTARY NOMINEES



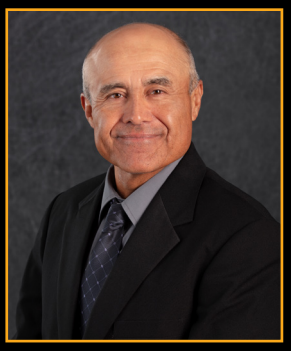
ASHLEE RAYAS
ANTHONY ISD



DR. NANCY TORRES
CANUTILLO ISD



LAURA TULLIUS-MEDINA
CLINT ISD



RAMON ROSALES
EL PASO ISD



FRANCIS CHAVIRA
FABENS ISD



JESSICA VARELA
FORT HANCOCK ISD



PATRICIA MAGALLANEZ
SAN ELIZARIO ISD



KENDRA LOPEZ
SIERRA BLANCA ISD



CRISTINA GARCÍA
SOCORRO ISD



MAIRA Y. RIVERA
TORNILLO ISD



ANGELICA CASTANEDA
YSLETA ISD

TOY 2026-2027

SECONDARY NOMINEES



FRANCIS RAYAS
ANTHONY ISD



KARLY DREHER
CANUTILLO ISD



HENRY RODRIGUEZ
CLINT ISD



JOHN MATTHEWS
EL PASO ISD



ALEXYS PACHECO
FABENS ISD



RACHEL MOORE
SIERRA BLANCA ISD



JAVIER ESPARZA
SOCORRO ISD



JOANNA HERNANDEZ
TORNILLO ISD



JACOB PINEDA
YSLETA ISD



SEATING

Curtains

STAGE

Curtains

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62

ENTRANCE

PROGRAM AGENDA

WELCOME
SOCORRO RODRIGUEZ – TEACHER OF THE YEAR COORDINATOR, ESC19

OPENING REMARKS
DR. ARMANDO AGUIRRE – Executive Director, ESC19

DINNER & T.O.Y. NOMINEES' VIDEO PRESENTATION

SPONSORSHIP RECOGNITION
BLANCA TOPETE – Board Chair, ESC19

SPECIAL REMARKS
MAX VILLARONGA – President and CEO, RAIZ Federal Credit Union

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM PAST RECIPIENT
RACHEL GOMEZ – 2026 Elementary Teacher of the Year

ELEMENTARY ESC19 T.O.Y. NOMINEES

TOP FINALISTS AND 2027 ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR
MAX VILLARONGA – President & CEO, Raiz Federal Credit Union

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM PAST RECIPIENT
Brenda Carrillo – 2026 Secondary Teacher of the Year

SECONDARY ESC19 T.O.Y NOMINEES

TOP FINALISTS AND 2027 SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR
MAX VILLARONGA – President & CEO, Raiz Federal Credit Union

CLOSING
DR. ARMANDO AGUIRRE – Executive Director, ESC19

TEACHER OF THE YEAR WHO WILL WIN?

WATCH LIVE YouTube LIVE

FRIDAY
AUGUST 14
7PM

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