FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 13, 2022

“SWEET 16” FINALISTS FOR ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED TODAY

“Honoring Alabama’s Top Educators’ Dedication to the Teaching Profession”

Montgomery, Ala. – These 16 outstanding educators, selected as finalists for the Alabama 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year, personify teaching excellence.

Each excels in the classroom and inspires students through mentorship. They utilize innovative classroom instruction to motivate classroom achievement.

This year’s 16 state finalists have emerged from a highly professional group of more than 150 top educators who submitted their official applications for this state honor. The Alabama Teacher of the Year Program is one of our state’s oldest and most esteemed awards programs.

Alabama State Department of Education - 2022-2023 District Teachers of the Year

Kelly S. Parker  
Mobile County School System – Tanner Williams Elementary School  
District I Elementary Teacher of the Year

Beverly S. Sport  
Crenshaw County School System – Luverne High School  
District I Secondary Teacher of the Year

Meagan King Johnson  
Ozark City School System – Lisenby Primary School  
District II Elementary Teacher of the Year

Laura Traylor  
Ozark City School System – Carroll High School Career Center  
District II Secondary Teacher of the Year

Geri Evans  
Hoover City School System – Bluff Park Elementary School  
District III Elementary Teacher of the Year

R. Paul McEwan  
Hoover City School System – Hoover High School  
District III Secondary Teacher of the Year

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DISTRICT FINALISTS FOR TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Reggie White
*Birmingham City Schools* – Booker T. Washington K-8 School
District IV Elementary Teacher of the Year

Monquelle D. Shamburger
*Birmingham City Schools* – A. H. Parker High School
District IV Secondary Teacher of the Year

Denisha B. Streeter
*Selma City Schools* – Saints Virtual Academy
District V Elementary Teacher of the Year

William Edmonds
*Mobile County Schools* – Barton Academy for Advanced World Studies
District V Secondary Teacher of the Year

April M. Dean
*Cullman City Schools* – East Elementary School
District VI Elementary Teacher of the Year

Michele Downey
*Piedmont City Schools* – Piedmont High School
District VI Secondary Teacher of the Year

Shayna F. Swann
*Trussville City Schools* – Paine Elementary School
District VII Elementary Teacher of the Year

Andrew Franck
*Sheffield City Schools* – Sheffield Junior High School
District VII Secondary Teacher of the Year

Doetiletia F. Sims
*Huntsville City Schools* – Highlands Elementary School
District VIII Elementary Teacher of the Year

Kristen F. Steele
*Madison City Schools* – James Clemens High School
District VIII Secondary Teacher of the Year

Alabama’s Teacher of the Year spends the majority of the school year serving as a full-time ambassador for education and the teaching profession, as well as presenting workshops to various groups.

Alabama’s representative is also a candidate for National Teacher of the Year. *This pool of outstanding educators will soon be narrowed down to the final Top Four.*

The 2022-2023 Alabama Teacher of the Year will be announced by the Alabama State Board of Education and Alabama State Department of Education in May.

Reflecting on her experiences as the most recent finalist, and Alabama’s current Teacher of the Year, Kimberly A. Johnson, said, “Congratulations to these highly skilled educators who have been selected. Each of these Alabama Teacher of the Year 16 Finalists truly exemplify excellence and demonstrate outstanding classroom leadership. They are elevating our profession to new levels of success.”

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