

Recognizing Excellence In Education



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BROWARD
County Public Schools

2025 **CALIBER AWARDS**

Presented By **BrightStar**
CREDIT UNION

Friday, February 7, 2025
Lauderhill Performing Arts Center



Better together

Aetna is proud to support the
Broward County Public Schools
Caliber Awards



PROGRAM

Welcome	Valerie Smith Wanza, Ph.D. Mistress of Ceremonies Broward County Public Schools Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer Eric Yutzy Master of Ceremonies WPLG Local 10 Anchor
Processional.....	Caliber Awards Nominees
Greetings.....	Debra Hixon Chair, School Board of Broward County, Florida
Remarks.....	Dr. Howard Hepburn Superintendent of Schools
Video Presentation.....	BrightStar Credit Union Presenting Sponsor
Student Remarks	Landyn Spellberg Student Advisor to the School Board of Broward County Western High School

Presentation of Finalists

School-Related Employee, Assistant Principal, Principal and Teacher of the Year

Announcement of Winners

School-Related Employee of the Year Award	Rachel Robuste 2024 School-Related Employee of the Year
Assistant Principal of the Year Award	Rosheika Rolle 2024 Assistant Principal of the Year
Principal of the Year Award	Dr. Kassandra Fried 2024 Principal of the Year
Teacher of the Year Award	Dr. Claudia Singkornrat 2024 Teacher of the Year
Closing Remarks	Master and Mistress of Ceremonies

Proud Sponsors of the 2025 Caliber Awards

Presenting



Diamond



Platinum



Gold



Silver



Bronze



Abraham S. Fischler College of Education
and School of Criminal Justice
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY



Educator



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Howard Hepburn
Superintendent
of Schools

On behalf of Broward County Public Schools, I am proud to welcome you to the 2025 Caliber Awards Ceremony. This special evening is a celebration of the remarkable educators who empower our students every day.

It is our pleasure to honor the visionary leaders, dedicated teachers and innovative support staff who consistently go above and beyond. Your passion, creativity and unwavering commitment to student success inspire us all. You cultivate a love of learning, nurture individual talents and motivate our students to become confident, compassionate and successful citizens of the world.

Your dedication to providing a high-quality education for every student is truly commendable. Thank you for your tireless efforts and for making a lasting impact on the lives of our students and our community.

Congratulations to all our nominees, semifinalists, finalists and winners. Your contributions are invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for your service to Broward County Public Schools.

The School Board of Broward County Congratulates the 2025 Caliber Awards winners



Chair Debbi Hixon



Vice Chair Sarah Leonardi



Maura McCarthy Bulman



Rebecca Thompson



Lori Alhadeff



Dr. Jeff Holness



Brenda Fam, Esq.



Nora Rupert



Dr. Allen Zeman



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MISTRESS AND MASTER CEREMONIES



Dr. Valerie Smith Wanza is a native South Floridian and a veteran employee of the sixth largest school district in the country, Broward County Public Schools. She is a proud 21-year resident of the City of Tamarac.

Currently, Dr. Wanza is the Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer for the school district. Throughout her 33 years with the Broward County Public Schools, she has served as a teacher, assistant principal, central office administrator, principal, principal supervisor, chief school performance & accountability officer, associate superintendent, deputy superintendent, and task-assigned superintendent of schools.

Dr. Wanza holds a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education (English) from Florida State University, a Master of Science degree in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in educational leadership from Florida Atlantic University. She possesses a wealth of respected knowledge and experience in the field of education and our diverse community. She has been recognized on the local, state and national levels for her distinguished service as an educational leader. Dr. Wanza enjoys serving on several advisory boards, an adjunct professor, and a member in good standing of many community and professional organizations.

While she and her late husband, Charles, have two adult children and four grandchildren, Dr. Wanza has entered a new chapter in her life with her companion, Arnold.



Eric Yutzy co-anchors the Local 10 Morning News. Eric moved to covering news after spending 11 years as an award-winning sports anchor.

From 2010 to 2014, Eric was the weekend sports anchor at WTHR-TV in Indianapolis. There he carved a niche as a storyteller, gaining behind the scenes access to athletes. Eric primarily covered the Indianapolis Colts and Indiana Pacers. His responsibilities also included Big Ten Conference basketball and football and IndyCar and NASCAR racing. While in Indianapolis, Eric covered major sporting events, including Super Bowls, Final Fours, the NBA and NFL playoffs, the Indianapolis 500 and many more.

From 2004 to 2010, Eric was a sports anchor at WTVF-TV in Nashville, Tennessee, where he covered the Tennessee Titans, Nashville Predators, and Southeastern Conference football and basketball.

Eric has received numerous honors, including Emmy and Associated Press awards. He's passionate about finding feature stories in the community that showcase hardworking people doing incredible things. Originally from Peabody, Massachusetts, Eric graduated from Quinnipiac University in Connecticut and started his career as a reporter for WKEF-TV in Dayton, Ohio. He then moved to Atlantic City, New Jersey, and was a reporter and sports anchor for WMGM-TV before moving on to Nashville.

Eric enjoys volunteering his time with many organizations across many different spectrums of service. He's a married father of four, so investing time in his family takes up most of his free time. He also enjoys reading, writing, working out and playing basketball.

CONGRATULATIONS 2025 CALIBER AWARDS SEMIFINALISTS!



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Broadview Elementary School..... Maxine Daley
Coconut Creek High School..... Kylah Ramos
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy Alicia Wright
Eagle Point Elementary School Shelly Auguste
Miramar High School..... Richard D. Lamarre
Park Lakes Elementary School Dr. Jennifer Mehu
Ramblewood Middle School..... Christina Zabko Nista
Sawgrass Springs Middle School Deanna Waters
West Broward High School Matthew Feiler
William T. McFatter Technical College..... Lillie deCastro
and High School

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Cooper City High School..... Vera Perkovic
Coral Cove Elementary School..... Stephanie Saban
Floranada Elementary School..... Luke Balchaitis
Nova Middle School..... Rayner Garranchan
Oriole Elementary School Sheneka Blue
Sunrise Middle School..... Ryan Atwood

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Apollo Middle School..... Jerelle Robinson-Owens
Blanche Ely High School..... Shenee Rowe
Cross Creek School..... Dr. Dana Thomson
Lake Forest Elementary School Cristina Rodriguez
Heron Heights Elementary School Michelle Griffiths
Walter C. Young Middle School Madelyn Doval

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Banyan Elementary School..... Racquel Husbands
Boyd H. Anderson High School Tracy-Ann Smith
Cresthaven Elementary School..... Kathy Doku
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy IdaZoe Pagan
Food and Nutrition Services..... Leticia Punziano
Hollywood Hills High School Rachel Silber
Lake Forest Elementary School Jonette Waters
Liberty Elementary School..... Marie Cherival
Margate Elementary School Melinda Rivera
Panther Run Elementary School Helen Catone
Whiddon Rogers Education Center Tatreon Brown

Congratulations

to all BCPS employees for your invaluable
contributions in making us an:



TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Teacher of the Year program was established by the Florida Department of Education to recognize and honor the contribution of outstanding classroom teachers, who have demonstrated a superior capacity to inspire a love of learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities.

Broward County Public Schools is proud to recognize and congratulate the following outstanding nominees for the Teacher of the Year award.

Annabel C. Perry Pre K-8 School	Kristin J. Chandler	Coral Springs High School	Amanda Mortimer
Apollo Middle School	Keila Reyes	Coral Springs Middle School.....	Barbara Fronrath
Atlantic Technical College & High School	Kimberly Fort	Country Hills Elementary School.....	Jessica Gittens
Atlantic West Elementary School	Julie Miller	Country Isles Elementary School	Amy Kobelin
Attucks Middle School.....	Kesia Jean	Cresthaven Elementary School.....	Jacqueline Schulman
Bair Middle School	Crystal V. Richardson	Croissant Park Elementary School.....	Elaindra Julme
Banyan Elementary School.....	Melissa Glynn	Cross Creek School	Iris L. Jones
Bayview Elementary School	Stephanie Witt	Crystal Lake Middle School	Vitra Boodoosingh
Beachside Montessori Village	Nancy Castillo	Cypress Bay High School.....	Bradley Franks
Bennett Elementary School	Kevin Hellberg	Cypress Elementary School	Cynthia Louissaint
Blanche Ely High School.....	Andrea Love-Johnson	Cypress Run Education Center	Irene Noel
Boulevard Heights Elementary School	Toccarra Foster	Dania Elementary School	Maria Podesta
Boyd H. Anderson High School	D'Andrea L. Brown	Dave Thomas Education Center.....	Ruche Ermat
Bright Horizons Center	Peta McCarthy	Davie Elementary School.....	Alisa Clifton
Broadview Elementary School	Maxine Daley	Deerfield Beach Elementary School.....	Sara Pierre
Broward Estates Elementary School.....	Navelly McKain	Deerfield Beach High School	Patricia E. Wilson
Broward Virtual School	Amy Volpe	Deerfield Beach Middle School.....	Brandy Collot
C. Robert Markham Elementary School	Brandy Scott	Deerfield Park Elementary School	Ruth Bean
Castle Hill Elementary School	Brandi Grant Charles	Dillard 6-12	Nicole L. Thomas
Central Park Elementary School	Nicole Loonam	Dillard Elementary School	Rondy Desravines
Challenger Elementary School.....	Michelle Applegate	Discovery Elementary School	Krystal Schechter
Chapel Trail Elementary School	Lorena Rodriguez	Dolphin Bay Elementary School.....	Steven Muniz
Charles R. Drew Elementary School	Shantell Goldsby	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy	Alicia Wright
Charles W. Flanagan High School	Julie Parker	Driftwood Elementary School	Oriana Guevara
Coconut Creek Elementary School	Mahailia Smith	Driftwood Middle School	Michelle Reyes
Coconut Creek High School	Kylah Ramos	Eagle Point Elementary School	Shelly Augustine
Coconut Palm Elementary School.....	Glenda Robinson	Eagle Ridge Elementary School	Randa Katib
Colbert Museum Magnet Elementary School.....	Shanteisha Howell	Embassy Creek Elementary School	Tracey Prezeau
College Academy @ BC.....	Carol Moore	Endeavour Primary Learning Center	Margie Bukur
Collins Elementary School	Rebekah Anderson	Everglades Elementary School	Lee Milberg
Community Schools South	Mia Merritt	Everglades High School.....	Leandy Lanfranco
Cooper City Elementary School	Candace Fletcher	Fairway Elementary School	Caroline Bailey
Cooper City High School.....	Nicole Hicks	Falcon Cove Middle School.....	Richard Keery
Coral Cove Elementary School.....	Anaeli Mijares	Flamingo Elementary School.....	Shay Farrell
Coral Glades High School	Mark VanVoorhis	Floranada Elementary School.....	Natalie Smith
Coral Park Elementary School	Joanna Aran	Forest Glen Middle School	Susan Montero
Coral Springs Elementary School	Karla Jones	Forest Hills Elementary School	Alana Goldberg

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Fort Lauderdale High School.....Vanessa J. Liburd
 Fox Trail Elementary School.....Daisy Green
 Gator Run Elementary School.....Indra Woodard
 Glades Middle School.....Ismael Gonzalez
 Griffin Elementary School.....Alishé Hajaree
 Gulfstream Academy of HallandaleCaroline Freckleton
 Beach K-8 School
 Gulfstream Early Learning Center.....Zulay Irvin
 Hallandale Magnet High School.....Kaila Gillings
 Harbordale Elementary School.....Mary Chee
 Hawkes Bluff Elementary School.....Tania Ingram
 Henry D. Perry Education CenterLariell Farris
 Heron Heights Elementary SchoolSamantha Alexander
 Hollywood Central Elementary SchoolKatia Valencia
 Hollywood Hills Elementary School.....Nina Martinez
 Hollywood Hills High SchoolAndrew Curry
 Hollywood Park Elementary SchoolIvan Pereira
 Horizon Elementary School.....Amy Strelzik
 Indian Ridge Middle SchoolCarla Reguero Grasso
 Indian Trace Elementary School.....Francesca Ammirata
 J.P. Taravella High SchoolNatalie Antoine
 James S. Hunt Elementary School.....Dana DeGasperi
 James S. Rickards Middle School.....Patricia Porter
 Lake Forest Elementary SchoolTramaine Brown
 Lakeside Elementary SchoolCarson Kochman
 Lanier-James Education CenterLaura Otero
 Larkdale Elementary School.....Jennifer Bowen
 Lauderdale Lakes Middle School.....Kerry Ann Thomas
 Lauderhill 6-12 STEM-MED School.....Iman Jeffrey
 Lauderhill Paul Turner Elementary School.....Lavonda Miller
 Liberty Elementary School.....Janice Jones-Harvey
 Lloyd Estates Elementary School.....Lillian A. Gomez
 Lyons Creek Middle SchoolRebecca Tebo
 Manatee Bay Elementary SchoolLarissa Werner
 Maplewood Elementary SchoolErika Bretz
 Margate Elementary SchoolNicholas Morrison
 Margate Middle SchoolMichelle Tillett
 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High SchoolMatthew Winans
 Mary M. Bethune Elementary School.....Smyrna Ferguson-Williams
 McArthur High SchoolKymberly Nicole Hope
 McNab Elementary SchoolStefanie McDougan
 McNicol Middle Magnet School.....Jessica Patterson
 Meadowbrook Elementary SchoolLilliam Guilbee-Cruz
 Millennium 6-12 Collegiate Academy.....Jennifer Schorr

Miramar Elementary SchoolDominique Williams
 Miramar High School.....Richard D. Lamarre
 Mirror Lake Elementary SchoolJameelah Bailey
 Monarch High SchoolOfelia Hilton
 Morrow Elementary SchoolChristopher King
 New Renaissance Middle School.....Andreanna Williams
 New River Middle School.....Kimberly Coombs
 Nob Hill Elementary SchoolAmanda Pagan
 Norcrest Elementary SchoolJulie VanHoose
 North Andrews Gardens Elementary SchoolJermaine Vassell
 North Fork Elementary SchoolShawntil Williams
 North Lauderdale Elementary SchoolFeliscia Williams
 North Side Elementary SchoolMaritza Canon Reyes
 Northeast High School.....Jonathan Dykes
 Nova Blanche Forman Elementary SchoolKabsha Mirza
 Nova Eisenhower Elementary SchoolDruptie Jawahir
 Nova High SchoolDrididi C. Preston
 Nova Middle School.....Dr. Juanda Smith
 Oakland Park Elementary School.....Donna Sacco
 Oakridge Elementary SchoolJenifer Missick
 Olsen Middle SchoolShayna Williams
 Orange Brook Elementary SchoolOfelia De La Cruz
 Oriole Elementary SchoolMary Grace Balicog
 Palm Cove Elementary SchoolEmily Alers
 Palmview Elementary SchoolLesley Hitch
 Panther Run Elementary SchoolNancy Rosario
 Park Lakes Elementary SchoolDr. Jennifer Mehu
 Park Ridge Elementary SchoolAmanda Heichen
 Park Springs Elementary School.....Amanda Snoddy
 Park Trails Elementary SchoolAndrew Schiff
 Parkside Elementary SchoolSamantha Simmons
 Parkway Middle SchoolBrinta Pharisien
 Pasadena Lakes Elementary SchoolAida Santos
 Pembroke Lakes Elementary SchoolMonica Alfonso Cepeda
 Pembroke Pines Elementary SchoolChristy Jenkins
 Peters Elementary School.....Annette Young
 Pine Ridge Education CenterDeShannon Cooper
 Pines Lakes Elementary School.....Jennifer Jones
 Pines Middle SchoolAndria Guthrie
 Pinewood Elementary SchoolSophia Francis
 Pioneer Middle School.....Cristine Chang
 Piper High School.....Brittney Osborne
 Plantation Elementary School.....Winsome Ellis
 Plantation High SchoolYolanda Hankerson

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Plantation Middle School Reuben Johnson
 Plantation Park Elementary School Carrie Peterson
 Pompano Beach Elementary School Mayra Lozada-Ocasio
 Pompano Beach High School Spencer Brown
 Pompano Beach Middle School Michael B. Miller, Jr.
 Quiet Waters Elementary School Stephanie Brown
 Ramblewood Elementary School Mary Dunn
 Ramblewood Middle School Christina Zabko Nista
 Riverglades Elementary School Marisa Pecoraro
 Riverland Elementary School Tiqua Carty
 Riverside Elementary School Sindy Berrios
 Rock Island Elementary School Shawanna Taylor
 Royal Palm STEM Museum Magnet Luna De Asis
 Elementary School
 Sanders Park Elementary School Alicia McIntosh
 Sandpiper Elementary School Jewel Hilt
 Sawgrass Elementary School Brian Lucente
 Sawgrass Springs Middle School Deanna Waters
 Sea Castle Elementary School Diana Liu
 Seagull Alternative High School Anthony Schmieder
 Seminole Middle School Maimon Gabay
 Sheridan Hills Elementary School Crystal Price
 Sheridan Park Elementary School Jessica Campos
 Sheridan Technical College & High School Henry Michaud
 Silver Lakes Elementary School Rhonda Tremblay
 Silver Lakes Middle School Patricia Maher
 Silver Palms Elementary School Kristin Kavanaugh
 Silver Ridge Elementary School Samantha Pesquera
 Silver Shores Elementary School Rosemarie Thompson
 Silver Trail Middle School Lynn Louis
 South Broward High School Ryan Perez-Rodrigues
 South Plantation High School Richard Gooden
 Stephen Foster Elementary School Lena Leon
 Stirling Elementary School Angela Blackmon
 Stranahan High School Sarah Donaldson
 Sunland Park Academy Shirlee Voltaire
 Sunrise Middle School Crystal Wright
 Sunset Lakes Elementary School Cecilia Del Cristo
 Sunshine Elementary School Kandice Rease
 Tamarac Elementary School Tanya Bodden-Reid
 Tedder Elementary School Miriam Turcios
 Tequesta Trace Middle School Anna Marie Brown
 The Quest Center De Anna Nieves
 Thurgood Marshall Elementary School Theresa Lockhart

Tradewinds Elementary School Kathryn Columbus
 Tropical Elementary School Susan Antunez
 Village Elementary School Sonia Harvey-Spence
 Virginia S. Young Montessori Elementary School Yvonne Moniz
 Walker Elementary School Cassandra Burton
 Walter C. Young Middle School Kristin Zara
 Watkins Elementary School Latasha Lane
 Welleby Elementary School Carla Costi-Kohen
 West Broward High School Matthew Feiler
 West Hollywood Elementary School Jacqueline Carridge
 Westchester Elementary School Erica Armstrong
 Western High School Kylie Simonton
 Westglades Middle School Melissa Shultz
 Westpine Middle School Eric Hernandez
 Westwood Heights Elementary School Rohan Hanslip
 Whiddon-Rogers Education Center Marsha Chamberlain
 Whispering Pines Center Angela Ward
 William Dandy Middle School Kuristan Jackson
 William T. McFatter Technical Lillie deCastro
 College & High School
 Wilton Manors Elementary School Tara French
 Wingate Oaks Center Lourdely Villock
 Winston Park Elementary School Pamela Lustig

Department Nominee

Atlantic Technical College - Arthur Ashe Fatima Ramzan
 Campus - Hospital Homebound Services



TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Lillie deCastro

William T. McFatter Technical College and High School

Lillie deCastro, a passionate educator with 30 years of service at BCPS, finds inspiration in the limitless potential of her students. As magnet coordinator at William T. McFatter Technical College and High School for the past 10 years, she has dedicated herself to creating an environment where students can discover their passions and achieve their goals.

"I've learned that students consistently surpass expectations when challenged with high standards. When they know I believe in them and support their journey, they truly shine," said deCastro. "Their curiosity, resilience and ambition inspire me daily. It is this sense of purpose that makes teaching not just a career but a calling."

In a recent proud moment outside the classroom, deCastro experienced the transformative power of walking the Camino de Santiago with her brother. This 63-mile pilgrimage through Spain fostered a deeper connection between them and a renewed appreciation for personal resilience.



Matthew Feiler

West Broward High School

Matthew Feiler, a passionate educator with 20 years in the profession, is dedicated to enriching the lives of his students. For the past five years, he has been a computer science teacher at West Broward High School. He fosters a fun and engaging learning environment, encouraging students to embrace a well-rounded education and develop a love of learning.

"Shifting students' mindset from grade-seeking to knowledge-seeking is crucial," said Feiler. "When students prioritize learning over grades, they become lifelong learners, driven by curiosity and a thirst for knowledge."

Feiler has had a natural ability to connect with children, earning their trust and affection. Whether as a camp counselor, substitute teacher or within his own family, he consistently builds strong and positive relationships.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Richard D. Lamarre
Miramar High School

Richard D. Lamarre has dedicated his entire 10-year career in education to Miramar High School, where he serves as a chemistry and science teacher. He takes pride in being a positive influence on his students' academic and personal growth.

"Beyond simply instructing curriculum, teachers play a pivotal role in connecting with students, inspiring them and improving their lives," said Lamarre. "I find immense satisfaction in helping students surpass their expectations and pushing them to become the scholars I know they are capable of being."

A highly motivated individual with a diverse range of interests, Lamarre enjoys rock climbing, nature photography and exploring the outdoors. His passion for environmental stewardship is evident in his volunteer work as a Master Gardener Volunteer. He has contributed to community initiatives such as developing school gardens and participating in butterfly counts for the North American Butterfly Association, where he collects valuable data on butterfly species.



Dr. Jennifer Mehu
Park Lakes Elementary School

Dr. Jennifer Mehu, a dedicated educator with 23 years of experience, finds inspiration in her students at Park Lakes Elementary School. She has taught kindergarten, second grade, and for the past 14 years, first grade. She continually strives to provide the best possible learning experience for her students.

"Being an educator is incredibly fulfilling," said Dr. Mehu. "I believe that teachers contribute to the foundation of all other professions, and it is an honor to know that I have played a role in shaping future leaders. When I step into my classroom, the stresses of the outside world fade away, reminding me that this is exactly where I am meant to be."

Dr. Mehu possesses a unique blend of introverted and extroverted traits, allowing her to thrive in both social and independent settings. She finds it easy to engage with others and build strong relationships, while also valuing personal reflection and time for rejuvenation. Her adaptability and diverse perspectives enable her to bring a unique balance and harmony to any team.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Deanna Waters

Sawgrass Springs Middle School

Deanna Waters, a literacy coach at Sawgrass Springs Middle School for the past six years, brings 27 years of experience in education to BCPS. With a focus on individual student needs, Waters fosters a love of learning by emphasizing the profound connections between literature and each child's unique journey.

"A significant learning moment for me occurred when I realized that every student, regardless of their background or reading level, possesses the capacity to connect with literature," said Waters. "Ultimately, it is the shared moments of discovery and achievement that drive me as an educator."

A lifelong Floridian, Waters enjoys spending time with her family, including her husband, also a native Floridian, and their two children. A dedicated book lover, she has a particular passion for the horror genre. From Poe to Stephen King, she enjoys exploring the macabre. She is especially proud of her comprehensive collection of Stephen King novels, many of which she has revisited multiple times.

SPECIAL THANKS



J.P. Taravella High School ProStart

The ProStart class at J.P. Taravella High School hosts one of the premiere culinary programs in Broward County. These talented and dedicated students win statewide recognition yearly by competing against all the schools in the state culinary competition! They were also the inaugural winners of the \$50,000 kitchen makeover grant from the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association Educational Foundation or FRLAEF. Their success allowed them to compete nationally and each year, they remain on top as one of the most decorated programs in Broward County Public Schools.



HOLLYWOOD, FL



Congratulations

Ms. Susan Antunez

Teacher of the Year
and

Ms. Ileana Nunez

School Related Employee of the Year

Tropical Elementary is so proud of you!

Congratulations!

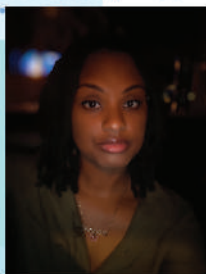
Mr.
Lamarre



BCPS:
Teacher of
the Year
Finalist

COCONUT CREEK ELEMENTARY

Salutes:



Mahailia Smith
Teacher of the Year



Gladys Yvette Aponte
*School-Related
Employee of the Year*



Cooper City High School



Nicole Hicks
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Sheri Raussea
SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE
OF THE YEAR

Congratulations

TO COOPER CITY HIGH SCHOOL'S
2024-2025 CALIBER AWARDS NOMINEES.

WE THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO EACH DAY
TO ENSURE STUDENTS' SUCCESS, AND WE TRULY
APPRECIATE YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR
LONG-STANDING TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE.

PROUD SPONSOR OF BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS *2025 Caliber Awards*



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Congratulations!



Ms. Shenee Rowe

Assistant Principal of Blanche Ely High School

Your BEHS Tiger family and community are proud of you!!
Always a winner & excellent as always.



*We are so proud of you, Jerelle!
You make Apollo a brighter place to be.*

*Your impact has been felt throughout our
entire community.*

*With lots of love, your favorite Apollo Admin
and Support Team!*

Apollo Middle School

Congratulations!

Teacher of the Year



***Ms. Coombs from all NRMS
Shark Handlers!***

*You are an amazing leader!
We appreciate your dedication and
commitment to the students and staff
at New River Middle School.*



Congratulations!

School-Related Employee of the Year



***Ms. Pinzon from all NRMS
Shark Handlers!***

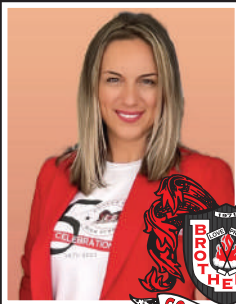
*You are a true leader. We appreciate
your compassion and dedication to
New River Middle School.*





CONGRATULATIONS

to Cooper City High School



***Principal of the Year Finalist,
Vera Perkovic***



And all of Broward County Public Schools
Principal of the Year nominees!

***We thank you for your continued dedication
and commitment to our students.***

From the City of Cooper City Mayor James Curran,
Commissioner Ryan Shrouder, Commissioner Jeremy Katzman,
Commissioner Lisa Mallozzi, and Commissioner Jason Smith





Abraham S. Fischler College of Education
and School of Criminal Justice
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

NSU
Florida

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- Flexible course options to fit your busy schedule
- Personalized coaching and support

We know how much you already invest in the success of your students. If you're a Broward County Public Schools employee and seeking a new graduate degree with the Fischler College, you are eligible for **20% off graduate tuition**.



Scan the QR Code to learn more!



PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership was established by the Florida Department of Education to recognize exemplary principals for their contributions to their schools and communities. The program honors principals who have spearheaded initiatives to increase student performance, promote safe learning environments and establish partnerships with parents and community members. Nominees are judged on several criteria including:

- Educational History and Professional Development Activities
- Student Achievement Data
- Student Achievement Initiatives

Broward County Public Schools is proud to recognize and congratulate the following outstanding nominees for the Principal of the Year award.

Boyd H. Anderson High School	James Griffin, II	Plantation Middle School	Tariq Qaiyim
Cooper City High School	Vera Perkovic	Pompano Beach Elementary School	Shezette Blue-Small
Coral Cove Elementary School	Stephanie Saban	Quiet Waters Elementary School	Geoff Henning
Coral Glades High School	Dr. Mark Kaplan	Riverglades Elementary School	Jo-Anne Misiewicz-Seltzer
Crystal Lake Middle School	Valerie Harris	Sheridan Hills Elementary School	Dr. Josetta Campbell
Cypress Run Education Center	Dr. Karlton Johnson	Silver Ridge Elementary School	John Vetter
Floranada Elementary School	Luke Balchaitis	Stephen Foster Elementary School	Ricardo Grimaldo
James S. Hunt Elementary School	Rendolyn Amaker	Sunrise Middle School	Ryan Atwood
Lakeside Elementary School	Dr. Riquelme Rodriguez	Tamarac Elementary School	Richard Garrick
Lauderhill Paul Turner	Michelle Engram-McKnight	Tequesta Trace Middle School	Robert Rivera
Elementary School		Walter C. Young Middle School	Mark Henderson
Margate Middle School	Sabine Phillips	Watkins Elementary School	Lori Mendez
Meadowbrook Elementary School	David Levine	Westchester Elementary School	Melissa Frame-Geraine
Morrow Elementary School	Dr. Laurel Crowle	Westglades Middle School	Matthew Bianchi
Northeast High School	Anthony Valachovic	Whispering Pines School	Michael Gleason
Nova Middle School	Rayner Garranchan	Wilton Manors Elementary School	Tauri Eligon
Oriole Elementary School	Sheneka Blue		
Palmview Elementary School	Robert Gibson		

Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School

Congratulates
ATC's recognized stars

Kimberly A. Fort
Teacher of the Year

&

Richard T. Simpkins
School-Related Employee of the Year



Kimberly A. Fort



Richard T. Simpkins

#ATLANTICTECHPROUD

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Luke Balchaitis
Floranada Elementary School

Luke Balchaitis, Principal at Floranada Elementary School, has dedicated 19 years of his career to BCPS. He previously served as an assistant principal at Virginia Shuman Young Montessori. Under his leadership, Floranada Elementary achieved a prestigious "A" grade from the state of Florida and ranks among the top 10 elementary schools in BCPS.

"Servant leadership guides my actions," said Balchaitis. "Our goal is to create a joyful learning environment where every student can excel. This requires a commitment to putting student needs first and empowering educators with the tools and support they need to succeed."

Balchaitis is a passionate music enthusiast who believes in the power of music to connect people and enrich lives. From attending concerts to enjoying music in his daily life, music is a constant source of inspiration and plays a vital role in his personal and professional journey.



Sheneka Blue
Oriole Elementary School

Sheneka Blue, Principal at Oriole Elementary School, has 22 years of dedicated service in education at BCPS. With just one year leading the school, Blue has quickly made a proud impact at Oriole Elementary. Under her leadership, K – 5th reading proficiency soared from 20% to 48%, while math proficiency surged from 11% to 50%. This remarkable progress culminated in the school earning a "B" rating from the state of Florida – a first in 11 years.

"In a rapidly changing world, education must prioritize the development of 21st-century skills," said Blue. "By cultivating inquiry, innovation and critical thinking, we empower students to become adaptable learners and problem-solvers who can navigate an uncertain future."

Beyond the classroom, Blue fosters a love of reading through her weekly "Oriole Bedtime Story" on Facebook Live, reaching students and families worldwide. A strong advocate for experiential learning, she actively participates in field trips, competitions and rewards programs to enrich student experiences. When not leading at Oriole Elementary, she enjoys cooking and spending time with her family.

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Vera Perkovic
Cooper City High School

Vera Perkovic is the Principal at Cooper City High School, where she has dedicated the last five years of her 21-year career in BCPS to fostering student success. She previously served as an assistant principal at South Broward High School. Under her leadership, Cooper City High has achieved remarkable success, earning an "A" grade from the state of Florida and being recognized as one of the "Best High Schools in the Nation" by U.S. News & World Report. The school's graduation rate

has soared, exceeding 99%.

"My philosophy of education focuses on fostering meaningful connections within a supportive environment where every scholar feels valued and empowered to become a confident, compassionate individual," said Perkovic. "Academic excellence is paramount, but it thrives when nurtured by strong relationships with students, teachers, staff and the community."

Sharing a birthplace with Nikola Tesla profoundly influenced Perkovic's educational philosophy and career path. Inspired by his visionary spirit, she pursued a career in education driven by a passion for nurturing creativity, critical thinking and a love of learning in her students. She is committed to cultivating an environment where every student can unlock their potential and contribute meaningfully to the world, just as Tesla envisioned



BROWARD PRINCIPALS' AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION

On behalf of the Broward Principals' and Assistant Principals' Association,
congratulations to all Caliber nominees and award recipients.

We are so proud of our Principals and Assistant Principals!

Henry D. Perry Education Center
2024-2025

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Congratulations!



Mr. Henderson



Deerfield Park
Elementary School honors

Ruth Bean

Teacher of the Year, and

Demonde Giles

School-Related Employee of the Year

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Outstanding Assistant Principal Achievement Award was established by the Florida Department of Education to recognize exemplary assistant principals for their contributions to their schools and communities. The program honors assistant principals who have utilized teamwork and leadership skills to increase student performance, promote safe learning environments and establish partnerships with parents and community members. Nominees are judged on several criteria including:

- Educational History and Professional Development Activities
- Leadership
- Achievements
- Professional Recognition and Awards
- Creativity and Innovation

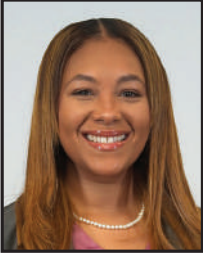
Broward County Public Schools is proud to recognize and congratulate the following outstanding nominees for the Assistant Principal of the Year award.

Apollo Middle School.....	Jerelle Robinson-Owens	Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School	Sandra Davis
Beachside Montessori Village.....	Gigi Forsman	McArthur High School	James Elder
Blanche Ely High School.....	Shenee Rowe	Nob Hill Elementary School	Susana Cruz
Coral Springs High School.....	Darius Saunders	Orange Brook Elementary School.....	Suzett Ledesma
Coral Springs Middle School.....	David Argent	Oriole Elementary School	Seporia Bolden
Coral Springs Middle School.....	Roxana Matthews	Parkway Middle School	Kevin Peters
Cross Creek School	Dr. Dana Thomson	Pioneer Middle School.....	Suzanne Keneth
Cypress Bay High School.....	Debra Santoro-Hubert	Riverglades Elementary School	Bartow Chris Duhart
Deerfield Beach Elementary School.....	Aaron LaPlante	Riverglades Elementary School	Lynnel Joseph
Eagle Point Elementary School	Mayte Garcia	Seagull Alternative High School.....	Kendra M. Bostic Nichols
Everglades Elementary School	Susan Hines	Silver Lakes Elementary School	Lourdes Cruz
Fairway Elementary School	Dr. LaShawn Tukes	Silver Ridge Elementary School.....	Cristina Deatherage
Falcon Cove Middle School.....	Cheryl Rubin	Sunset Lakes Elementary School	Alicia Aguilar
Griffin Elementary School	Thomas Nordstrom	Walker Elementary School.....	James Frye
Heron Heights Elementary School	Michelle Griffiths	Walker Elementary School.....	Jessica Temple
Hollywood Hills Elementary School.....	Gisela Rivera	Walter C. Young Middle School	Madelyn Doval
Hollywood Hills High School	Alexandra Ramos	Westchester Elementary School	Avis Goodman
Lake Forest Elementary School	Cristina Rodriguez	Westchester Elementary School	William Hartner
Lauderdale Lakes Middle School.....	Kristie Ford	Westglades Middle School	Shari Schwartz
Lauderdale Lakes Middle School.....	Markis Facyson	William Dandy Middle School.....	John W. Battle III

You're a Star!



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Jerelle Robinson-Owens

Apollo Middle School

Jerelle Robinson-Owens is an Assistant Principal at Apollo Middle School, where she has served the last four years of her eight years as an educator at BCPS. Under her guidance, the school has achieved outstanding growth, with student proficiency increasing by 19 percentage points, earning a "B" rating from the Florida Department of Education in 2024. Robinson believes education should equip students with the tools and mindset to not only overcome challenges but to shape the future.

"My goal is to foster a learning environment where students are empowered to be innovative, dynamic and daring enough to break barriers," said Robinson. "Every child deserves a world-class education that empowers them to overcome challenges, break cycles of poverty and realize their full potential."

Beyond her professional pursuits, Robinson loves exploring new horizons. She enjoys indulging in online shopping sprees, traveling to exotic destinations, grooving at concerts and cheering on her favorite teams at sporting events. A self-proclaimed taco connoisseur, she has a zest for life and has been known to break into spontaneous dance.



Shenee Tasha Rowe

Blanche Ely High School

Shenee Tasha Rowe is an Assistant Principal at Blanche Ely High School, where she has served students the last four years of her 14 years at BCPS. Rowe was an Assistant Principal at Attucks Middle School before helping to lead a remarkable turnaround at Blanche Ely High. Under her leadership, the school achieved a "B" grade in the 2023/24 school year, demonstrating significant improvement.

Blanche Ely High was also one of two BCPS high schools with the largest increase in English Language Arts proficiency last year.

"I believe all children deserve access to an education that empowers them to succeed academically, socially and emotionally," said Rowe. "Beyond academics, we must cultivate essential life skills like critical thinking, problem-solving and resilience to empower students to become well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to society."

Rowe's journey to education was unexpected. After graduating with a degree in biomedical science, she realized her true passion was in teaching. What began as a leap of faith became her true calling. She now strives to 'save lives' every day, not in the traditional sense, but by inspiring young minds and nurturing their growth.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Dr. Dana Thomson
Cross Creek School

Dr. Dana Thomson, an Assistant Principal at Cross Creek School, has spent 11 years as an administrator in education. She has spent the last two years focused on championing the needs of students with emotional and behavioral disabilities. Her tireless advocacy has yielded remarkable results at Cross Creek, including a significant improvement in the school's rating and a 97% participation rate in assessments for students with emotional and behavioral disabilities.

"At the heart of my philosophy lies the unwavering belief that every student has the potential to succeed," said Dr. Thomson. "This includes ensuring equitable access to resources, implementing innovative teaching practices that engage all learners and fostering a shared sense of responsibility among all stakeholders to support student success."

As a dual citizen of Canada, Dr. Thomson has had the privilege of navigating diverse cultures. Her academic background in art history and professional experiences as an art dealer have taken her on extensive journeys throughout Europe, with formative stints in France, Spain, Italy, France and Turkey. Embracing her identity as a global citizen, she continues to draw inspiration from the world's rich cultural heritage.

Congratulations!

To Mr. Luke Balchaitis!

From your friends at VSY Montessori



Congratulations To Our Outstanding Educators!

The City of Lauderdale Lakes Proudly Celebrates
The Incredible Achievements of Our Local Finalists For
The BCPS 2025 Caliber Awards Recognition.



Dr. Jennifer Mehu
Finalist for
Teacher of the Year

**Park Lakes
Elementary School**



Sheneka Blue
Finalist for
Principal of the Year

**Oriole
Elementary School**



Tracy-Ann M. Reynolds Smith
Finalist for
**School-Related Employee
of the Year**

**Boyd H. Anderson
High School**

**Your Dedication and Excellence Inspire us All.
Thank You for Making Lauderdale Lakes Shine!**





The City of Miramar congratulates

RICHARD D. LAMARRE

Teacher of the Year Finalist
Miramar High School

We are proud of you! Your dedication and passion inspire us all.
Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!



Mayor
Wayne M. Messam



Commissioner
Winston F. Barnes



Commissioner
Yvette Colbourne



Commissioner
Maxwell B. Chambers

We Listen. We Care. We Serve!



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@CityofMiramar





**Broward
Education
Foundation**
Investing in Broward's Future since 1983



Congratulations to all

CALIBER
AWARDS

Finalists!

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

The School-Related Employee of the Year program was established by the Florida Department of Education to recognize outstanding education support personnel for the significant contributions they make to their schools and district school systems.

Broward County Public Schools is proud to recognize and congratulate the following outstanding nominees for the School-Related Employee of the Year award.

Anabel C. Perry Pre K-8 School	Melisa Neely	Coral Springs High School	Brandon Wesley
Apollo Middle School	Keisha Lewis	Coral Springs Middle School	Frank Barberan
Atlantic Technical College & High School	Richard Simpkins	Country Hills Elementary School	Yanilka Tirado Henriquez
Atlantic West Elementary School	Yves LaFortune	Country Isles Elementary School	Maria Carolina Osuna
Attucks Middle School	Evelyn Funchess	Cresthaven Elementary School	Kathy Doku
Bair Middle School	Tramain Davis	Croissant Park Elementary School	Nikita McKenzie
Banyan Elementary School	Racquel Husbands	Cross Creek School	Bobby Jean Allen
Bayview Elementary School	Patsy Ramkhalawan	Crystal Lake Middle School	Anna Rokicki
Beachside Montessori Village	Girvon Plummer	Cypress Bay High School	Kelly Conway
Bennett Elementary School	Dorthea Walker	Cypress Elementary School	Julie St. Claire
Blanche Ely High School	Juanita King	Cypress Run Education Center	Sharmain Lindsay
Boulevard Heights Elementary School	Fawn Chow	Dania Elementary School	Teriz Khalil
Boyd H. Anderson High School	Tracy-Ann Smith	Dave Thomas Education Center	Wade Outlaw
Bright Horizons Center	Esther McLeod-Simon	Davie Elementary School	Debora Biramontes
Broadview Elementary School	Andrea G. Sparrock	Deerfield Beach Elementary School	Angela Montoya
Broward Estates Elementary School	Laqueshia Brinson	Deerfield Beach High School	Sharon Rodriguez
Broward Virtual School	Liana Avila	Deerfield Beach Middle School	Alejandra Nin
C. Robert Markham Elementary School	Gladys Ceballos	Deerfield Park Elementary School	Demonde Giles
Castle Hill Elementary School	Lakika Carter	Dillard 6-12	Tisha Carter
Central Park Elementary School	Anais Madrid	Dillard Elementary School	Sharon Wilson
Challenger Elementary School	Antwan Carter	Discovery Elementary School	Shirley Forehand
Chapel Trail Elementary School	John Burrillo	Dolphin Bay Elementary School	Steven Rosenhoch
Charles R. Drew Elementary School	Kyle Freeman	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy	IdaZoe Pagan
Charles W. Flanagan High School	David Pierre-Louis	Driftwood Elementary School	Ricardo Jimenez
Coconut Creek Elementary School	Yvette Aponte	Driftwood Middle School	Devon Roberts
Coconut Creek High School	Anthony Emmanuel	Eagle Point Elementary School	Randy Frail
Coconut Palm Elementary School	Rukhsana Farid	Eagle Ridge Elementary School	Amanda Luzadder
Colbert Museum Magnet Elementary School	Gaetonio Sanford	Embassy Creek Elementary School	Mari Anne McDonnell
College Academy @ BC	Tereza Ayres-Curtis	Endeavour Primary Learning Center	Leatheis Reliford
Collins Elementary School	Stephanie Jordan	Everglades Elementary School	Judith Dieguez
Community Schools South	James Fair	Everglades High School	Shantell Griffin
Cooper City Elementary School	Valeria Serventi Amaya	Fairway Elementary School	Claudia Gamarra
Cooper City High School	Sheri Rausseo	Falcon Cove Middle School	Gregory Edwards
Coral Cove Elementary School	Dayren Mauriz	Flamingo Elementary School	Lourdes Griffin
Coral Glades High School	Marguerite Alvarado	Floranada Elementary School	Rita Tobin
Coral Park Elementary School	Olga Osorio	Forest Glen Middle School	Desmond Bozeman
Coral Springs Elementary School	Kristi Dowling	Forest Hills Elementary School	Jennifer Cassara

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Fort Lauderdale High School..... Elvia Umana
 Fox Trail Elementary School..... Anthony Alberico
 Gator Run Elementary School..... Marie Cruz
 Glades Middle School..... Valerie Bonfiglio
 Griffin Elementary School..... Maria S. Dunakin
 Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale Markeia Pratt
 Beach K-8 School
 Gulfstream Early Learning Center..... Alexander Santiago
 Hallandale Magnet High School..... Luz Bedoya
 Harbordale Elementary School Kathleen Landers
 Henry D. Perry Education Center Corey Henderson
 Heron Heights Elementary School Katherine Curran
 Hollywood Central Elementary School ... Aldayne Christopher Bryson
 Hollywood Hills Elementary School..... Felicia Mari Luxama
 Hollywood Hills High School Rachel Silber
 Hollywood Park Elementary School Theresa Davis
 Horizon Elementary School..... Lillian Laux
 Indian Ridge Middle School Candice Arthur
 Indian Trace Elementary School..... Juan Acosta
 J.P. Taravella High School Regina Burns
 James S. Hunt Elementary School..... Ludny Lily
 James S. Rickards Middle School..... Eddie Jeans Jenkins
 Lake Forest Elementary School Jonette Waters
 Lakeside Elementary School David Richardson
 Lanier-James Education Center Sylvester Wesley
 Larkdale Elementary School..... Kierra Cotton
 Lauderdale Lakes Middle School..... Lakesha Wyche Mitchell
 Lauderhill 6-12 STEM-MED School . Luisa Fernanda Correa Cordona
 Lauderhill Paul Turner Elementary School..... Portia Porter
 Liberty Elementary School..... Marie Cherival
 Lloyd Estates Elementary School..... Gustavo Hurtado
 Lyons Creek Middle School Cordesia Dukes
 Manatee Bay Elementary School..... Tabettha Peel
 Maplewood Elementary School Cynthia Prieto
 Margate Elementary School Melinda Rivera
 Margate Middle School Latasha Lawrence
 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Elizabeth Morales
 Mary M. Bethune Elementary School..... Donna Clark
 McArthur High School Anne Sager
 McNab Elementary School Maria Tello
 McNicol Middle Magnet School Elizabeth L. Robinson
 Meadowbrook Elementary School Milagro Acosta
 Millennium 6-12 Collegiate Academy..... Gloria Mathis-Robinson
 Miramar Elementary School Maria Castillo

Miramar High School..... Ana Vega
 Mirror Lake Elementary School Kathleen Pulliam
 Monarch High School April Grebla
 Morrow Elementary School Beth Balzer
 New Renaissance Middle School..... Nicole Jiron-Gonzalez
 New River Middle School..... Yadre Pinzon
 Nob Hill Elementary School Rose Marie DeFalco
 Norcrest Elementary School Lori Beard
 North Andrews Gardens Maria Valentina Mazziotta
 Elementary School
 North Fork Elementary School Kimberly Robinson
 North Lauderdale Elementary School Deandra Horne
 North Side Elementary School Geneva Richardson
 Northeast High School..... Annette D. Jordan
 Nova Blanche Forman Elementary School Lincoln McKenzie
 Nova Eisenhower Elementary School Luis Garcia
 Nova High School..... Miriam Figueroa
 Nova Middle School..... Joshua Brooks
 Oakland Park Elementary School..... Rose Theresa Richards
 Oakridge Elementary School Richelle Brais
 Olsen Middle School..... Luis D. Tua Mercado
 Orange Brook Elementary School Sheila Archer
 Oriole Elementary School Joan Peeler
 Palm Cove Elementary School..... Maria Correa
 Palmview Elementary School Brian Goodstein
 Panther Run Elementary School Helen Catone
 Park Lakes Elementary School Andres M. Ayala
 Park Ridge Elementary School Evelyn Garcia
 Park Springs Elementary School..... Anthony Jones
 Park Trails Elementary School Claudia Hoyos
 Parkside Elementary School..... Matthew Laud
 Parkway Middle School Justice Edwards
 Pasadena Lakes Elementary School..... Briseida Lero
 Pembroke Lakes Elementary School Jessica Lescano
 Pembroke Pines Elementary School Alicia Hernandez
 Peters Elementary School..... Lillie Matties
 Pine Ridge Education Center Grace Spence
 Pines Lakes Elementary School..... Kelly Hepler
 Pines Middle School Mindy Winepol
 Pinewood Elementary School Arlene Velazquez
 Pioneer Middle School..... Javier Ortega
 Piper High School..... Antwaun Clemons
 Plantation Elementary School Akisha Badger
 Plantation High School Michael Korir

Plantation Middle SchoolPerneilia Doe
 Plantation Park Elementary School Elizabeth Hagan
 Pompano Beach Elementary School Darrin Hines
 Pompano Beach High School..... Cielo Reyes-Estrella
 Pompano Beach Middle SchoolWillie Brown
 Quiet Waters Elementary School Patricia Caceres
 Ramblewood Elementary School Willow Holmes
 Ramblewood Middle School Willie Gayle
 Riverglades Elementary School Laura Just
 Riverland Elementary School Utokia Terry
 Riverside Elementary School Jessica Bardisa
 Rock Island Elementary School Julie McMillan
 Royal Palm STEM Museum Magnet Unique Burke
 Elementary School
 Sanders Park Elementary School.....Kedra McKeithen
 Sandpiper Elementary SchoolCatherine Wong
 Sawgrass Elementary School Kyle Jablonski
 Sawgrass Springs Middle SchoolChristine Charles
 Sea Castle Elementary School.....Martha Quesada
 Seagull Alternative High School.....Allana Ziff
 Seminole Middle SchoolAngie Aponte
 Sheridan Hills Elementary School.....Brenda Garland
 Sheridan Park Elementary School Fazila Sabir
 Sheridan Technical College & High School.....Ryan Carter
 Silver Lakes Elementary School Elizabeth Domenech
 Silver Lakes Middle School Omar Soto
 Silver Palms Elementary School Helen Barnard
 Silver Ridge Elementary School.....Monica Jobes
 Silver Shores Elementary SchoolSonjia Oliver
 Silver Trail Middle School.....Audrey Turner
 South Broward High School..... Jose Cea-Rivas
 South Plantation High School Alina Fernandez
 Stephen Foster Elementary School Nancy Thompson
 Stirling Elementary School Maria Lopez
 Stranahan High School Charles McClure
 Sunland Park Academy Wayne Bailey II
 Sunrise Middle School..... Carlton Mapp
 Sunset Lakes Elementary School Melanie Rivera-Ayala
 Sunshine Elementary School Shirelle Alston
 Tamarac Elementary School.....Kurleigh Andrew
 Tedder Elementary School.....Sherlande Moreau
 Tequesta Trace Middle School Marcela Aldana
 The Quest CenterDucarmel Alexis, Jr.
 Thurgood Marshall Elementary School Roberta Ware Grant
 Tradewinds Elementary School Theresa Amodeo
 Tropical Elementary School Ileana Nunez
 Village Elementary School Tessa Alford
 Virginia S. Young Montessori Elementary School Kerry Garcia
 Walker Elementary School.....Sharon D. Whitfield

Walter C. Young Middle SchoolMichael Andrews
 Watkins Elementary School Emmeline De Thomas Alcaide
 Welleby Elementary School Hector Felix
 West Broward High School Lorenzo Antonio Reino
 West Hollywood Elementary School..... Janet Mercado
 Westchester Elementary School Makeda Davis
 Western High SchoolMarta Rodriguez
 Westglades Middle SchoolJody Lerner
 Westpine Middle SchoolShantae Coleman
 Westwood Heights Elementary School Trenesha Bush
 Whiddon-Rogers Education Center..... Tatreon Narcesse Brown
 Whispering Pines Center Shantory Gaskins
 William Dandy Middle School Edna T. Demps-McKinney
 William T. McFatter Technical Dawn Selvanik
 College & High School
 Wilton Manors Elementary School Brittney Brundage
 Wingate Oaks Center..... Ameteen Clay
 Winston Park Elementary School..... Mahnaz Ali

Department Nominee

Food and Nutrition Services..... Leticia Punziano

Congratulations

to our Teacher and School-Related
Employee of the Year!

Your Dania Elementary family
thanks you for ALL that you do!



From L to R: Galina Markevich, Assistant Principal;
Teriz Khalil, Employee of the Year; Maria Podesta,
Teacher of the Year; and Michael V. Billins, Principal

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Kathy Doku

Cresthaven Elementary School

Kathy Doku is a teacher assistant at Cresthaven Elementary School, where she has dedicated seven of her 11 years with BCPS to supporting young learners. She currently works with four-year-old students in the Head Start Program.

"I believe all children are unique and deserve an education that fosters their intellectual, emotional and social growth," said Doku. "My goal is to create a motivating and supportive learning environment where every student can reach their full potential."

A creative problem-solver, Doku brings a distinctive approach to design and innovation. Rather than relying on traditional templates or layouts, she taps into her imagination to craft unique and personalized solutions for each project. This unconventional approach allows her to develop innovative and effective solutions that make a lasting impact.



IdaZoe Pagan

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy

IdaZoe Pagan, parent educator for Head Start at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy, has dedicated nearly five years of her BCPS career to serving families. Pagan finds immense satisfaction in helping families thrive and succeed within their communities.

"I believe in empowering families by providing them with the support and resources they need to help their children succeed. My goal is to create a safe and inclusive environment where open communication and collaboration can flourish."

Born in Puerto Rico, Pagan immigrated to New Jersey with her family in the mid-1970s, where her parents, who spoke no English, found work on a blueberry farm. As a child with limited English proficiency, she attended a Head Start program, an experience that significantly impacted her communication skills. Witnessing her parents' resilience and determination to build a better life instilled in Pagan a deep commitment to supporting families in their educational journeys.

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Rachel Silber

Hollywood Hills High School

Rachel Silber is the community outreach liaison at Hollywood Hills High School, where she has dedicated eight years to serving students and families in BCPS. Silber has forged strong partnerships with local businesses and organizations, securing vital resources for students and staff. Hundreds of volunteers contribute to school and community projects due to her efforts.

"I believe that success is achieved through hard work, dedication and a strong work ethic," said Silber. "I strive to create a supportive and inclusive environment where students learn the value of respect and responsibility, empowering them to grow and achieve their full potential."

Silber begins each day by greeting everyone with a warm 'good morning,' setting a positive tone for the day. Known for her resourcefulness, she is unwavering in her dedication to meeting the needs of students. From sewing a ripped shirt to advocating for students' successes, she goes the extra mile to ensure they have the support they need. She is proud of mentoring students through programs like Students Against Destructive Decisions and Take Stock In Children, guiding them toward informed choices and a brighter future.



Tracy-Ann Smith

Boyd H. Anderson High School

Tracy-Ann Smith, Office Manager at Boyd H. Anderson High School, has dedicated five of her 25-year career in BCPS to serving the school community. Known for her strong leadership and project management skills, Smith has successfully streamlined various school operations, contributing significantly to the overall efficiency and success of the school."

"I believe hard work and dedication are essential for personal and academic growth," said Smith. "I am committed to creating an environment where every student has the opportunity to develop their strengths and achieve excellence."

Smith is an adventure-seeker who stays active through her passion for gymnastics. In her free time, she perfects her movement, including executing effortless cartwheels, precision runoffs and impressive handstands, showcasing her strength, flexibility and enthusiasm for staying physically fit.

SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS



Jonette Waters

Lake Forest Elementary School

Jonette Waters is the technical support specialist at Lake Forest Elementary School, where she has dedicated the past 13 of her 30 years serving students at BCPS. In her role, Waters consistently exemplifies dedication, professionalism and an unwavering commitment to supporting the technology needs of students and staff alike. Her tireless efforts have significantly improved the school's technology infrastructure and enhanced the learning experience for students.

"I believe every student has the potential to achieve great things," said Waters. "My philosophy centers on providing students with the knowledge, skills and support they need to pursue their passions and build a successful future. I am proud to play a role in shaping the future by guiding and inspiring young minds."

Waters is a dedicated and resourceful individual who thrives on challenges. Known for her caring nature, she consistently goes the extra mile to support those around her. She is a dedicated and hardworking individual who finds joy in her work and in providing support to others.



Congratulations

Ida Pagan, a Finalist for
School-Related Employee of the Year

&

Alicia Wright, a Semi-Finalist
for Teacher of the Year!

From Your Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy Family

Mrs. Vera Perkovic



Congratulations

We are incredibly proud of Principal Perkovic's achievement and grateful for her inspiring leadership. Cooper City High School and our community are lucky to have such a dedicated principal!

#teamcooper #cowboyfamily



Principal of the Year Finalist 2024-2025





Let's keep solving for communities.

For 80 years, Florida Blue has been bringing health solutions to our communities that help them thrive. Whether that means being there for our members and non-members or supporting partners in the community, we are committed to making a positive impact and addressing the needs of people and communities across the state.

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On behalf of Sunland Park Academy Faculty and Staff
CONGRATULATIONS!!!
MS. SHIRLEE VOLTAIRE-TEACHER KINDERGARTEN
TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2024-2025



On behalf of Sunland Park Academy Faculty and Staff
CONGRATULATIONS!
MR. WAYNE BAILEY II-TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SERVICES II
SCHOOL RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
2024-2025



Congratulations *to* *Jerelle Robinson Owens*

Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist



It is with great pride and honor that we congratulate Jerelle Robinson—Owens as Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist.

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

Congratulations and remember it's about both the journey and the destination!



Enjoy every moment.

Charlie's Angels

The Honorable Judge Elijah H. Williams

Jona Brown

Chandra Lee





NATALIE SMITH
LITERACY COACH
FLORANADA'S
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



LUKE BALCHAITIS
PRINCIPAL
PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
FINALIST



RITA TOBIN
FRONT DESK CLERK
FLORANADA'S
SCHOOL RELATED EMPLOYEE
OF THE YEAR

FLORANADA ELEMENTARY

WE LOVE OUR CALIBER NOMINEES!



Teacher of the Year: Mr. Ismael Gonzalez

Teaching history has always been Mr. Gonzalez's dream. Over the past seven years as a teacher, he has worked alongside dedicated educators who are passionate about making a meaningful impact on students' lives. Their support and collaboration have taught him so much. There's nothing more rewarding than hearing former students share the positive impact he's had on their lives—it's truly an incomparable experience.

GLADES

ENGAGE • EDUCATE • ELEVATE



MIDDLE

PRINCIPAL DANIELA FATOUT

School-Related Employee of the Year: Mrs. Valerie Bonfiglio

An incredible asset to our school, she embodies dedication and passion. Her efficiency, enthusiasm, and smile shine in every task. She is always ready to help with positivity, inspiring everyone she encounters. Her hard work and kindness create a welcoming and supportive environment. Our school is a better place because of her.



We are proud to support the 2025 Caliber Awards.

HCA Florida Healthcare is a part of HCA Florida Healthcare, Florida's largest healthcare family, and is committed to innovative, advanced and compassionate healthcare.



HCA Florida
Healthcare®

We show up

HCAFloridaHealthcare.com



Congratulations!

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

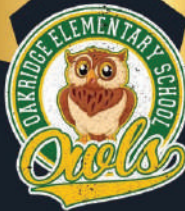


JENIFER MISSICK

SCHOOL-RELATED
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

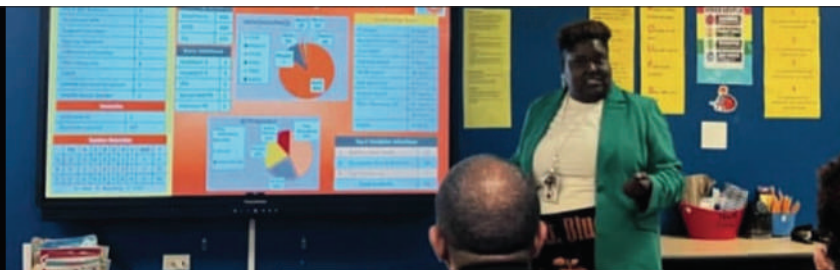


RICHELLE BRAIS



**Starting as Oakridge students to becoming members
of staff, you are invaluable pieces of our foundation at
Oakridge Elementary School.**

**We hope you continue to inspire and soar high.
Oakridge Owls Soar with Excellence!**



Congratulations
SHENKA BLUE
*Principal of the Year
Finalist*



**WE
SOAR**



*Thank you for always
Representing*

**FAMILY, COMMUNITY,
& SCHOOL**



HOLLYWOOD HILLS HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES OUR TEACHER & STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR!

G.R.O.W Minds,
Invest in The
Future

Greatness
Resiliency
Opportunities
Wisdom



Teacher of the Year:
Mr. Andrew Curry



**School Related
Employee of the Year:**
Ms. Rachel Silber

Congratulations to our District Finalist!



**Thank you for all you do for Spartan
Nation, Ms. Silber! We LOVE you!**





CONGRATULATIONS

To

Ms. Miriam Turcios

(Teacher of the Year)

&

Ms. Sherlande Moreau

(School-Related Employee of the Year)

From

Tedder Elementary School Faculty & Staff

A proud supporter of
Broward Education Foundation

InspereX

Congratulations Caliber Awards Honorees

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child programs

 **Sunshine Child Programs**   **@SunshineASC**

7900 Peters Rd., B101, Plantation, FL 33324
* 954-236-8850 * www.sunshinefl.com

Congratulations

IdaZoe Pagan

Head Start Parent Educator
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy

for being recognized as a finalist for the
SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
at the 2025 Caliber Awards



Mayor
Denise D. Grant



Vice Mayor
S. Ray Martin



Commissioner
Richard Campbell



Commissioner
Melissa P. Dunn



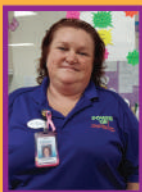
Commissioner
John T. Hodgson





CONGRATULATIONS

FNS Super Super Stars!



TABETHA PEEL
Food and Nutrition Services
Manatee Bay Elementary



MARIA CASTILLO
Food and Nutrition Services
Miramar Elementary



PATSY RAMKHALAWAN
Food and Nutrition Services
Bayview Elementary



LAKIKA CARTER
Food and Nutrition Services
Castle Hill Elementary



LETICIA PUNZIANO
Food and Nutrition Services
*School-Related Employee
of the Year*



KELLY HEPLER
Food and Nutrition Services
Manager
Pines Lakes Elementary



JOAN PEELER
Food and Nutrition Services
Oriole Elementary



RANDY FRAIL
Food and Nutrition Services
Eagle Point Elementary



LILLIE MATTIES
Food and Nutrition Services
Peters Elementary

Congratulations

Dr. Dana Thomson!



We are so proud of you!

You are an inspiration to us all!

With Love
Your Cross Creek School Family



I am so
excited to be
a part of your
leadership
journey.
You make
me very
proud!



Love, your proud principal, Dr. Kushner



Congratulations

Congratulations

Sawgrass Springs Middle proudly celebrates Deanna Waters, an outstanding educator and leader, for being named a District Finalist for Teacher of the Year.

***Congratulations** on this well-deserved recognition of your dedication, passion, and commitment to excellence in education.*

We're honored to have you represent our school and inspire our community!



Congratulations **Sheneka Blue**

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FINALIST



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
COMMITMENT TO THE
ORIOLE FAMILY!**



Congratulations, Ms. Ramos

You are a true representation
of The Cougar Standard of Excellence!

We are proud of you!

Believe. Build. Bloom. Creek!!

From your Cougar Family!

Keep soaring.



JetBlue is proud to support the Caliber Awards
and Broward County Public Schools.

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Congratulations

Lillie!



*You make a real difference.
We are so proud to have you as part of
our McFatter Family.*

*Congratulations
Caliber Celebrity Educators*



**BROWARD
TEACHERS
UNION**

**ANNA FUSCO
PRESIDENT**

WWW.BTUONLINE.COM



Congratulations
to all nominees!

Helping Build Brighter Futures
One step at a time



We offer our members:



Free Checking
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Home Equity Loans



Auto Loans



Educator IRAs



High Yield CDs



Business Solutions



Mobile Banking



Mortgage Solutions



Credit Cards

BSCU.org



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