

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
RECOGNITION**

2021 HCPS TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

March 22, 2021

Background Information:

Each year since 1987, the Maryland State Department of Education conducts a Maryland Public School Teacher of the Year program in which each of the 24 state sub-divisions is invited to submit the name and nomination packet of a candidate. Each of the counties and Baltimore City is responsible for determining an appropriate way to select its candidate. In Harford County Public Schools, each year beginning in November, nominations are sought from the public for candidates to be named the HCPS Teacher of the Year for the following school year. Nomination packets are collected by the HCPS Communications Office, which organizes a judging team composed of members of the school system's leadership team, members of the business community, parents, former Teachers of the Year, students, and school administrators. Since 1995, the school system conducts a gala celebration at The Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace, courtesy of The Bayou and Har-co Credit Union, during which the five finalists are honored. The Teacher of the Year is announced at the conclusion of the program.

Discussion:

On April 21, 2021, the school system will hold its 27th Annual Teacher of the Year celebration as a virtual live event via Microsoft Teams. The finalists honored will include Kelly Ackley, Southampton Middle School; Kerrie Bauer, Aberdeen High School; Lauren Byrd, Hickory Elementary School; Kimberly Perouty, Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School; and Sarah Scholl, Havre de Grace Middle School. At the conclusion of the event, the HCPS 2021 Teacher of the Year will be revealed and will enter the competition for the Maryland Teacher of the Year, the winner to be announced in October 2021.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education of Harford County commend the 2021 HCPS Teacher of the Year Finalists. The Superintendent further recommends the Board wish the winning teacher good luck as she enters the Maryland Teacher of the Year competition.