

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FEBRUARY 11, 2022**

## **HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES TOP FIVE CONTENDERS FOR COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

*Expert educators vie for prestigious title*

The top five finalists for the 2022 Harford County Teacher of the Year award have been released and are listed in alphabetical order below. The judging panel had a difficult and unenviable task again this year with many outstanding teachers nominated for the award.



**Rebecca Gault, *Bel Air High School***  
English Teacher

Dr. Rebecca Gault, an educator for 31 years in Harford County, currently is a 9th grade English teacher at Bel Air High School. Dr. Gault earned an English bachelor's degree in 1990 and two master's degrees in 1991 and 1997, all from Towson University. She earned a doctorate from Walden University in 2020. Nationally Board Certified, she served as Department Chair, School Improvement Facilitator, and Professional Development School Coordinator at BAMS. Inducted into the National Teaching Hall of Fame, she has written several books for teachers and presented at the local, state, and national levels. Dr. Gault created the Kindness Project, integrating students' lives with community service and the curriculum.



**Ashley Gereli, *Churchville Elementary School***  
Special Education Teacher

Ms. Ashley Gereli is a 6th-year Special Education teacher at Churchville Elementary School. A proud product of HCPS, she completed the Teaching Academy of Maryland Program at C. Milton Wright High in 2012. She attended Harford Community College to study Elementary Education, Special Education, and Psychology, earning her Associate of Arts in 2014. Ms. Gereli completed her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary and Special Education at Towson University in 2016. Currently, she is pursuing her graduate studies in Transformational Educational Leadership (M.A) at Towson University. At Churchville Elementary School, Ms. Gereli is a member of many leadership teams, serves as a ClubHOUSE Leader, and was nominated by her colleagues for the 2021-22 Harford County Education Foundation Everyday Hero award!

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**Elizabeth Nemeth, *Havre de Grace Middle School***  
Social Science Teacher

Elizabeth Nemeth is a 14 year seventh-grade social science teacher at Havre de Grace Middle School. She is dedicated to providing a safe and engaging environment of learning for all students, which fosters relationships and student advocacy. As a life-long learner, she strives to instill students with the same love of learning by demonstrating the importance of continuous growth. Ms. Nemeth received her bachelor's degree in Education from Radford University, and her master's degree from Notre Dame of Maryland University in Administration and Supervision in Changing Populations. She serves as Department Chair and SGA advisor and writes Social Science curriculum.



**Cybil Rohner, *Fallston Middle School***  
Mathematics Teacher

Cybil Rohner is a 16-year educator of 6th grade mathematics at Fallston Middle School. She holds an M.A.T. from Towson University and a B.F.A. from New York University. Her classroom enthusiasm is influenced by her first career as a Production Manager in New York. Cybil is a National Board Certified teacher in Early Adolescence Mathematics and was a 2018 recipient of the Harford County Educational Foundation Everyday Hero Award. Cybil volunteers in her community as the President of Fallston Soccer, a program serving over 1,200 children. Her husband, Todd, and amazing children, Cameron, Molly, Dylan, and Joshua are her inspiration.



**Amy Wolff, *Swan Creek School***  
Reading Specialist

Amy Wolff has served HCPS as a Reading Specialist, Classroom Teacher, and Special Educator. Mrs. Wolff is National Board Certified in Early/Middle Childhood Literacy. She has a Master of Education in Reading and completed graduate coursework in Educational Leadership, Environmental Literacy, and STEM. Mrs. Wolff is on the HCPS Elementary Science Curriculum Writing Team. She collaborated to develop a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience which is integrated into Grade 2 Science curriculum. Mrs. Wolff volunteers on the Environmental Literacy Framework Development Group and as a Presidential Award Reviewer for MSDE. She volunteers in the community as a Harford County Watershed Steward.

### **PAGE THREE: 2022 HCPS TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS**

This year's Teacher of the Year Judging Committee reviewed and scored all nomination packets to determine a pool of candidates that participated in an interview with a panel of seven judges. The judges narrowed the pool to the top five finalists, one of which will be crowned the 2022 Harford County Teacher of the Year.

A surprise announcement of the winner will take place during this year's virtual celebration, to be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Har-co Credit Union and Jones Junction continue to be premiere sponsors of the Teacher of the Year program. Additionally, our finalists will be receiving many outstanding gifts donated by local Harford County businesses!

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