

The poster features a stylized background with radiating lines in shades of gray and light blue. In the upper left, a yellow circular seal contains the text 'I ♥ Rockwall' and 'INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'. A yellow spotlight beam originates from the seal and points towards the right. In the center, two black silhouettes of a man and a woman, representing teachers, stand with their hands on their hips. They are wearing red capes and have a red heart with a yellow 'R' on their chests. Behind them are silhouettes of school buildings, including two towers. The bottom half of the poster is black, with the text 'TEACHER OF THE YEAR' in large, white, distressed block letters, and '2018' in yellow, textured block letters below it.

I ♥
Rockwall
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2018



TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2018

Friday, April 27 | Hilton Bella Harbor

Welcome

Dr. John Villarreal
Superintendent

Recognition of Sponsors & Committee

Renae Murphy
Chief Communications Officer

Sheri Stodghill Fowler Beginning Teacher of the Year Award

Sonya Carpenter
*Federal Programs / Early Childhood
Coordinator*

2017 District Teachers of the Year Video

Dr. Tom Maglisceau
Chief of Student Services
Kayse Williams
Elementary Teacher of the Year
Amber Panter
Secondary Teacher of the Year

2018 Teachers of the Year

Dr. Mary Johnston
Chief Administrative Officer – Elementary
Dr. Amy Anderson
Chief Administrative Officer - Secondary

Announcement of Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year

Dr. John Villarreal

Closing Remarks

Dr. John Villarreal

THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR



ELEMENTARY - KAYSE WILLIAMS

Kayse Williams served Rockwall ISD as the 2017 Elementary Teacher of the Year. Kayse is a dedicated special education teacher at Billie Stevenson Elementary School.



SECONDARY - AMBER PANTER

Amber Panter served Rockwall ISD as the 2017 Secondary Teacher of the Year. Amber is a committed spanish teacher at Utley Middle School.

The 2018 Selection Committee

The Teacher of the Year program is administered by the Texas Association of School Administrators. The Rockwall ISD Teacher of the Year Selection Committee was given the difficult task of selecting this year's overall Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year who will advance to the Region 10 competition. Committee members are:

Rhonda Wasson

English/Language Arts Secondary, Library Services and Languages other than English Coordinator

Megan Humphrey

Elementary Math Coordinator

Kayse Williams

2017 Elementary Teacher of the Year

Amber Panter

2017 Secondary Teacher of the Year

Renae Murphy

Chief Communications Officer for Rockwall ISD

John Adams

Rockwall Breakfast Rotary Club Community Representative



Traci Tatom, Amanda Rochell Elementary School

I believe my greatest contributions and accomplishments in education are the positive, energetic, fun climates I create and bring to my classroom and campus. I create an environment for students filled with love and laughter. When my students reflect on their time spent in my classroom, I hope they will say, "Mrs. Tatom, she really cared about me."



Andrea Gregory, Amy Parks-Heath Elementary School

I believe everyone in my classroom contributes as a student, as a teacher, and as a thinker. I learn from students as much as they learn from me. All students are individuals and each one learns in their own unique way. I change something every year! I am a continuous learner who wants to grow continually and be better for my students .



Adrienne Hergert, Billie Stevenson Elementary School

I am more than a physical education teacher. I am a leader. I am a mentor. I am a multi-grade level educator. I am a special education teacher. I am an encourager, advocate, and friend. I am rewarded daily with student growth and strive to see my students accomplish 100%.



Lisa Marriott, Celia Hays Elementary School

I believe that the best classroom environment is one that encompasses the whole child, inspires learning in all students and creates a collaborative community of learners. I know that I have done my job well if students are leaving 4th grade with a love for learning and a desire to keep growing.



Bridgette King, Doris Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary School

I have a passion for loving my students and having a place where my students feel loved, heard and safe. A place they can depend on being the same, even if our busy schedule dictates change. I can provide consequences in love because I have built trust. I can provide a safe place to share their feelings because they know I will still love them.



Tami Vaughan, Dorothy Smith Pullen Elementary School

I believe every student deserves an educator that is passionate, motivated, and understands the importance of the role they play in each child's future. I firmly believe that enthusiasm is contagious. By modeling my love for teaching and the content, students become more interested and engaged. I am passionate about what I do and want all children to enjoy learning.



Barbara Duran, Dorris A. Jones Elementary School

I know that every student has talents and sometimes they are hard to find. Before you can teach them, you have to reach them. You have to build a relationship with students. Some students are harder to reach than others and some you may feel you are not getting through. It could just be a little thing, a pat on the back, a kind word, a good morning or a second chance to start fresh.



Amber Swindle, Grace Hartman Elementary School

I believe that teaching is a craft and a calling. I have sought to instill a love of life-long learning in my students. I truly believe that the passion for reading, research, or investigation can spread like wildfire and give people purpose. It is my job to help students feel successful and help stretch their thinking.



Jay Fisher, Howard Dobbs Elementary School

I think about how lucky I am to get to spend every day with my students. How lucky I am that someone at home is trusting me with their prize possessions. How lucky I am to know that when a student comes into my classroom in the morning, he or she is going to get my best effort for the following 7-8 hours.



Amy Sparks, Linda Lyon Elementary School

As a teacher, I want my students, parents, and team members to know that I am true to my word. "We are family here in our classroom," are the words I let my students know the day they step into my classroom. I have always told my students that our classroom is like sitting down at my dinner table. In my classroom, we make mistakes, but we learn from them.



Nicole Morgan, Nebbie Williams Elementary School

Great teachers are great students. They are the ones that are able to relate to their students best because they never stop learning themselves. They are constantly learning from their colleagues, students and improving upon their own experiences. I am the sum of every teacher I have ever come in contact with.



Chris Tenney, Ouida Springer Elementary School

Lessons must come to life so that all my kids experience the things that they learn. When you walk into my classroom, you better bring a pair of safety goggles. Balloons could be whizzing by your head, steam could be condensing in the air or heat could be transforming sugar into a magical, melting candy.



Lauren Atkins, Sharon Shannon Elementary School

Being a special education teacher is not like being a typical teacher. It means not only do I get to teach my kids about math, reading, science and social studies, I also get to teach them about life. There is nothing like teaching a child to read a book by themselves for the first time or teaching a child to say their own name for the first time.



Sarah Baker, Virginia Reinhardt Elementary School

I believe all children deserve a quality education in an atmosphere of respect and encouragement. Students come to me with many strengths, weaknesses, talents and struggles. They have diverse learning styles and learn at various paces, and they can all learn if appropriately challenged to reach new levels of achievement.



Jessica Overstreet, Herman E. Utley Middle School

It does not matter if a parent, student, or administrator walks into my classroom, they will automatically know that I love what I do. Students thrive when they know that teachers love their job. Teaching is so much more than textbooks, STAAR, essays and quizzes. Students need us as teachers to be more than that. Educators are teachers, counselors, confidants, friends, disciplinarians and life-lesson coaches.



Dawn Andrews, J.W. Williams Middle School

A simple smile or listening could change a student's day for the better. Just by doing a few simple things such as, shaking hands at the door, talking about their activities, sports or favorite television shows, students will come to realize I am genuinely interested in them - that I am meeting them where they are and I care about what is important to them. When mutual respect is achieved, trust grows.



Kimberly James, Maurine Cain Middle School

I walk into my classroom every day knowing I have the chance to make a positive or negative impact on a child by my words and actions. I have the privilege to not only make a difference in my student's math education but I get to make a difference in their lives, not many other careers get to say that.



Dani Leugers, Rockwall High School

"You were born to do what's never been done." This is the statement behind my teaching philosophy. It is education in its purest form, but not commonly seen in mainstream academics. The classroom should be a safe environment for the holistic growth and cognitive bloom of students, a place where individuals are encouraged to think for themselves, take responsibility for their learning, and explore ideas that may seem new or unheard of.



Misty Rayson, Rockwall-Heath High School

It is my belief that students and teachers learn, grow, and evolve along a serendipitous road and will work interdependently as they construct their own meanings through their educational journey. I teach to inspire my students in a way that has a lifelong impact and touch the world far beyond the walls of a classroom or a school.



Ragan Osteen, Rockwall Quest Academy

My favorite moments as a teacher are not when a student does well on a test or an assignment, but that moment when they state an insightful thought, especially if they can defend or explain their answer. I get really excited when it is an idea or interpretation that I would never have thought of myself. It is evidence that I have succeeded in helping a student become an independent and thoughtful thinker.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR

TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2018

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