

Envision Science Academy 2017-2018

Teacher of the Year



Principal Charles Fuller and the Envision Science Academy (ESA) staff are excited to announce that Mrs. Lauren Braszo has been chosen as our 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Braszo has nine years' experience as a classroom teacher and teaches third grade English/Language Arts at ESA. As the 2017–2018 Envision Science Academy Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Braszo was nominated through a vote by teachers and staff. In addition to the respect and admiration of her colleagues, Mrs. Braszo meets the following criteria:

1. Is an expert in her field who guides students of all backgrounds and abilities to achieve excellence,
2. Collaborates with colleagues, students, and families to create a school culture of respect and success,
3. Deliberately connects the classroom and key stakeholders to foster a strong community at large,
4. Demonstrates leadership and innovation in and outside of the classroom walls that embodies lifelong learning, and
5. Expresses herself in an engaging and articulate way.

As part of the nomination, Mrs. Braszo is eligible to be selected as the 2018 Burroughs Welcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year. The program provides an opportunity to honor and recognize exemplary teachers in North Carolina and to call attention to the importance of the teaching profession.

Individual charter schools nominate Teachers of the Year who participate in a selection process facilitated by the Office of Charter Schools at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Charter Schools are clustered together to form the ninth region of the state. After the district and charter school nomination processes are completed, the Charter School Teacher of the Year joins the Regional Teachers of the Year team from all public schools across the state as a finalist for the state Teacher of the Year.

After a series of relevant screening activities, the State Teacher of the Year is chosen by a committee consisting of professional educators as well as business and community leaders. The state selection committee members are chosen based on their dynamic public record in support of education. The State Teacher of the Year and the other Regional Finalists form a collaborative network to provide ongoing professional development and support throughout the state on critical issues facing public education. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education take pride in celebrating the most innovative and effective public school educators in our state.

In the 46 years of the program in North Carolina, three State Teachers of the Year have become National winners. Four have become National Finalists and one has been inducted into the National Teachers' Hall of Fame. Twelve North Carolina Teachers of the Year have taught at the elementary school level, eight at the middle or junior high school level and twenty-six at the high school level.

Please join us in congratulating Mrs. Braszo and wishing her the best as she moves forward in the State Teacher of the Year Program!