

Education Minnesota

12 selected as Teacher of the Year finalists

For more information, contact:

[Doug Doohar](#)

651-292-4820 (work)

651-245-6141 (cell)

[Chris Williams](#)

651-292-4816 (work)

651-247-5539 (cell)

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 5, 2018 – Twelve teachers from across the state have been named finalists in the 2018 Minnesota Teacher of the Year program. An independent selection panel of 23 leaders in the areas of education, business, government and non-profits selected the finalists from a group of 43 semifinalists. There were 167 Teacher of the Year candidates for this program year.



The selection panel meets again May 5 to conduct individual interviews with each of the 12 finalists and to cast votes for the 2018 Minnesota Teacher of the Year. For a look at how the selection process works, go to www.educationminnesota.org/news/awards/teacher-of-the-year.aspx.

The 2017 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, Corey Bulman of Mound Westonka Public Schools, will announce this year's honoree at a banquet at the Radisson Blu Mall of America May 6. Banquet tickets can be [purchased here](#).

Education Minnesota, the 86,000-member statewide educators union, organizes and underwrites the Teacher of the Year program. Candidates include pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade teachers and ABE teachers from public or private schools. The Minnesota Teacher of the Year Program also receives support from the following organizations: The SMARTer Kids Foundation, the Radisson Blu Mall of America, the Harvard Club of Minnesota Foundation, United Educators Credit Union, McDonald's Restaurants of Minnesota, Educators Lifetime Solutions, EFS Advisors and Education Minnesota ESI.

The 2018 Minnesota Teacher of the Year finalists (listed alphabetically, with school, district, subject and grade[s] taught) are:

Courtney Bell, North Academy of Arts and Communication, Minneapolis, social studies, grades 9-12

Dani Berry, Epsilon, Intermediate District 287, math, grades 7-12

Scott Glew, Salk Middle School, Elk River, social studies, grade 8

Kelly Holstine, Tokata Learning Center, Shakopee, English, grades 9-12

Adam Kuehnel, Minnesota Correctional Facility–Faribault, State of Minnesota, English language arts, Adult Basic Education

Alyssa Larsen, Waconia High School, Waconia, human geography and world history, grades 10-12

Tim Leistikow, Fridley High School, Fridley, English, grades 11-12

Shaylee McComb, Weaver Elementary, North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale, music, grades K-5

Malia Norton, Medford Elementary, Medford, elementary, grade 2

Renee Swanson, High School for Recording Arts, St. Paul, biology, grades 9-12

Sheena Tisland, Red Wing High School, Red Wing, language arts, grade 9

Gregory Truso, Wilshire Park Elementary, St. Anthony-New Brighton, elementary, grade 2

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