



The School District of Osceola County, FL

Terry Andrews, Superintendent

Press Release (English and Spanish)

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Contact: Dana Schafer, Director of Community Relations - Osceola School District --
407-870-4007 or 407-908-8811 (cell)

Ten Finalists Named For Osceola's 2013 "Teacher of the Year"

The field of 57 individuals named as school-based "Teachers of the Year", in honor of excellence in their profession, has been narrowed down to the top ten finalists. The name of one of these individuals will be revealed as Osceola County's 2013 "Teacher of the Year" at a ceremony hosted by the Education Foundation - Osceola on March 16, 2012, at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center.

The following educators have been named as finalists:

Maria Barry - Middle School Math Teacher at Celebration K-8

Theresa Brady - First Grade Teacher at Lakeview Elementary

Nanci Brilliant - Reading and College Readiness (Grades 9-12) Teacher at St. Cloud High School

Amanda Brown - Fourth Grade Teacher at Neptune Elementary

Aaron Foley - Language Arts Teacher (Grade 12) at Gateway High School

Kimberly Hollock - Literacy Coach (K-5) at Partin Settlement Elementary

Elizabeth Hudson - Gifted (K-2) and Second Grade Teacher at Harmony Community School

Michael Ortiz - Music (K-8) Teacher at Bellalago Charter Academy

Pauline Waggoner - Math Teacher at Neptune Middle School

Jennifer Zable - Art (K-5) Teacher at Hickory Tree Elementary

A panel of judges selected the finalists based on their applications, which outlined their educational history, professional development, teaching philosophy and practice, and included letters of recommendation. Each finalist was surprised at their work location by Superintendent Terry Andrews to announce their finalist standing.