



Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools

Alina Stewart
Principal

Dear Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 Community,

The Governor's Educator of the Year Program highlights educational innovation, student achievement, exemplary teaching, and important services outside the classroom environment that lead to student success. This celebratory program recognizes our state's best teachers and educational services professionals who will be recognized at the Union County Office of Education.

We are proud to announce that the 2018 Governor's Teacher of the Year for Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 was awarded to Ms. Carolyn Kirkwood. Ms. Kirkwood has been a valuable member of Elizabeth Public Schools for the past 17 years and is currently teaching fifth grade. Ms. Kirkwood is a dedicated, conscientious, and compassionate educator who is deeply committed to the academic success and well-being of her students. She has cultivated a culture for learning that can be seen immediately upon entering her classroom. High quality student work is prominently displayed throughout her classroom, as is student assessment data, which she routinely uses to drive her instruction. Ms. Kirkwood clearly communicates high expectations for students and the importance of the work in which they are engaged. The students, faculty, and administration of Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 are truly blessed to have such a professional and passionate educator as Ms. Kirkwood to call their own.

This year's Educational Service Provider of the Year for Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 was awarded to Ms. Juana Zuloaga. Ms. Zuloaga, a personal assistant, is now a classroom assistant in a bilingual kindergarten classroom at School No. 13. She is a dedicated and compassionate assistant who takes an active role in teaching and learning. Ms. Zuloaga leads center activities with small groups of students that target specific skills, rewards students for participating in lessons and listening to instructions, and gently reminds students to remain on task when they need to be redirected. Her sunny disposition and willingness to be a team player stands out and makes Ms. Zuloaga a valuable asset to Benjamin Franklin School No. 13.

Please join us in celebrating these two amazing professionals for the work they have done, and continue to do, for our school community and district.

Sincerely,

Alina Stewart

Benjamin Franklin School No. 13