

Olga Hugelmeyer Superintendent of Schools Nichol Comas Principal

Dear John Marshall School No. 20 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.

I am proud to announce that the 2019 Governor's Teacher of the Year for John Marshall School No. 20 was awarded to Ms. Janil Diaz. Ms. Diaz began her professional career as a fourth grade teacher at School No. 20 in January 2012 and transitioned to second grade during the 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Diaz is committed to the Elizabeth Public School district and has served on the School No. 20 SCIP Team, Disney's Musicals in Schools productions, model teacher for the Children's Literacy Initiative, and as a presenter and curriculum writer for the district's Language Arts Literacy department. Ms. Diaz's seven years in education has transformed the lives of children and has had a positive impact on the students, teachers, and entire John Marshall School No. 20 community.

This year's Educational Service Provider of the Year for John Marshall School No. 20 was awarded to Mrs. Dina Faria. In 2001, Mrs. Faria began her career with Elizabeth Public Schools at Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23 as a third grade teacher. In 2010, she transitioned to School No. 25 as a fifth grade teacher and in 2012 served as fourth grade teacher until 2016. During her tenure, Mrs. Faria served as a grade level coordinator, Multicultural Committee chair and MyAccess trainer. Her years of exemplary teaching and leadership led to her current position as an Instructional Mathematics Coach, for which she ensures high quality and rigorous mathematics instruction is taking place throughout the school. The actions of Mrs. Dina Faria serve as a model for all team members and support why she is an exemplary candidate for this prestigious award.

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,

Nichol Comas