



Olga Hugelmeyer  
Superintendent of Schools

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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 2018 Governor's Teacher of the Year for John Marshall School No. 20 was awarded to Ms. Claudia Restrepo. As an immigrant from Columbia, Ms. Restrepo was filled with a desire to teach bilingual children in order to help them assimilate in the United States of America. Ms. Restrepo has dedicated her entire career to serving in an urban school district. This has made her realize that the highest level of care and devotion is critical. She is committed to her profession and continuously evaluates her effectiveness. She reflects on her lessons and strategies to improve her teaching and the students' learning. Ms. Restrepo is committed to the district's promise of ensuring that all of her students achieve excellence. Her personal mission is to open the hearts and minds of her students in hopes that they are given a pathway to a future with unlimited possibilities.

This year's Educational Service Provider of the Year for John Marshall School No. 20 was awarded to Ms. Sarah Brown. Ms. Sarah Brown has served the Elizabeth Public School District for eighteen years. She has performed satisfactorily in the roles of self-contained special education teacher, resource teacher and guidance counselor. As an educator, Ms. Brown has demonstrated effective communication skills in collaborating with staff members, students and families. Ms. Brown utilized various teaching strategies in an effort to reach each student and clearly had a positive impact on students' learning. She was conscious of her students' diverse learning styles and refrained from teaching with methods that only benefited those learners whose styles reflected her own. Currently as a guidance counselor, Ms. Brown now has the opportunity to extend her outreach to all of the students and families of the John Marshall community. Aside from Ms. Brown's outlined job descriptors, she demonstrates leadership and takes initiative by running the National Junior Honor Society and WE initiative, preparing monthly student award assemblies and offering morning counseling sessions to students in need. Ms. Brown lives John Marshall School No. 20's motto: *Together Everyone Achieves More*. The words and actions of Ms. Brown 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