



Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools

Veronica Alvero
Principal

Valerie Delceg Burgos
Vice Principal

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Vice Principal

Dear Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 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 Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 was awarded to Ms. Lindsay M. Walker. Ms. Walker, a Kean University graduate, started working for Elizabeth Public Schools in 2011. She is currently a sixth-grade language arts teacher who, through her creativity, draws out student interests and increases engagement. While working in Elizabeth, she has received the Star of Excellence Award for her dedication and hard work in the classroom. In 2014, she received her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and is currently working on her second Master's in School Counseling. Ms. Walker takes pride in her role as our school's site coordinator for the WE program and facilitator of our character education enrichment program. WE program is an initiative that focuses on service learning and a movement that constitutes that people coming together can create a better world. She genuinely represents this belief and has brought it to life in her classroom and throughout our school community. She is committed to ensuring her students understand the importance of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship, while connecting it to her daily instruction.

This year's Educational Service Provider of the Year for Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 was awarded to Mrs. Amber Palombo. Mrs. Palombo has worked for the Elizabeth Public Schools since 2001 as a bilingual teacher, instructional coach, and a teacher tutor/interventionist. She is a recipient of the Star of Excellence, Key of Excellence, and the NJASK Perfect Score Teaching Award from the Elizabeth Board of Education, all representing her enduring dedication. Mrs. Palombo was also the Teacher of the Year for Theodore Roosevelt School No. 17 in 2003 and for Robert Bruce Elementary in California in 1998. She was instrumental in helping the bilingual department achieve Model Program status as recognized by the State of New Jersey. She has conducted multiple professional development workshops for the Language Arts and Bilingual departments, as well as for her school, other schools across the district, and at state conferences. Mrs. Palombo is whole-heartedly committed to serving the children of Elizabeth with love and compassion and advocates for second language learners. Her daily role includes servicing children at School Nos. 9 and 27 to improve their literacy skills.

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,

Veronica Alvero

Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27
