

The Learning Curve

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Your weekly guide to students, schools, teachers and triumphs in Bibb County's Public Schools

Alexander II Elementary's Jennifer Doss selected as finalist for 2007 Georgia Teacher of the Year

"These teachers represent what is best about education in Georgia," State School Superintendent Kathy Cox said at a press conference in Atlanta as she announced this year's 11 finalists for Georgia's Teacher of the Year. "These educators are innovative, resourceful, and dedicated. And best of all, they are getting results."

More than 140 school systems submitted applications for their Teacher of the Year to be selected for this statewide honor, and Bibb County Public Schools own Jennifer Doss of Alexander II Elementary was chosen as a finalist.

The next step for Doss and the other finalists is they will have a panel of judges visit them in their school to not only conduct a personal interview, but to observe them in the classroom. On March 10, a luncheon will be held in their honor at the Georgia Power Office Building, and the announcement of this year's recipient will be at the annual banquet to be held on March 16 at the Georgia Aquarium.

As the Georgia Teacher of the Year, the recipient will take a one year sabbatical from teaching to act as an educational ambassador and advocate for Georgia's Public School systems, teachers, students, and administrators. They will spend the year travel-



Superintendent Sharon Patterson (right) congratulates Alexander II Lead Math teacher Jennifer Doss on being named a 2007 Georgia Teacher of the Year finalist.

ing the around the state conducting development activities, participating in statewide committees, attending conferences, and speaking at various events.

"This is one of my favorite parts of being Superintendent," says Cox. "It is a good reminder

that great education does not happen in board rooms and legislative chambers. It happens in a classroom that has a great teach at the front of the room."

Doss, who is lead math teacher at Alexander II, helped the department create a school-wide pacing guide for learning facts and mastering basic skills, establishing tutoring for at-risk students, and modeling hands-on activities for classroom teachers. She works personally with low-performing students

For her own professional development, she is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and PAGE, she is currently waiting on her results for her National Board Certification, she has made presentations at the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics conferences, she obtained a gifted endorsement in 2004, earned her masters in early and middle grades math and science in 2003, and is constantly improving her mathematical knowledge through professional journals, taking on-line course, and auditing math classes.

"We are so proud of Mrs. Doss," said Principal Penny Smith, as Doss left the Centreplex in a limo ride provided by the Downtown Macon Rotary Club. "She is the epitome of a Teacher of the Year."

Bibb County Public Schools' Science Fair Winners

Secondary - Senior Division (Grades 9-12)

Best of Show*

Bongiovanni, Brice and Sameer Gupta - Central
Smith, Rachel - Westside

1st Place*

Anderson, Brandon - Westside
Bonds, Ronald - Westside
Cline, Taylor - Westside
Pham, Charles - Westside
Richardson, Kathleen and Ting Chen - Central
Stephens, Grace - Central

2nd Place

Lewis, Chris - Westside
Patterson, Ryan - Westside

3rd Place

Al-Khalil, Bilal and Virgille Arquisola - Central
Babecki, Kevin - Westside
Davis, Reginald - Westside
Pratts, Chase - Westside
Stevenson, Cierra - Westside

Secondary - Junior Division (Grades 6-8)

1st Place*

Cherry, Julia - Miller
Cruse, Cody - Alexander II
Johnson, Mackenzie - Howard
Liles, Blair - Rutland MS
Powell, Claire - Howard

2nd Place

Fleming, Frederick - Miller
Harris, Destiny - Burghard
Hill, Kaitlyn - Rutland MS
Holloway, Katie - Howard
Hugdahl, Maisie and Leah Parris - Miller
Kelly, Kyle - Howard
Pegues, Jamila - Weaver
Rackley, Kyle - Howard
Russ, Kenneth - Miller
Weintraut, Benjamin - Howard
Zion, Zachary - Howard

3rd Place

Bradford, Rebekah - Miller
Harnedn, Samantha - Miller
Hicks, Chailyn - Miller
Maddox, Kenneth - Rutland MS
Momin, Misha - McEvoy
Odum, Brannen - Rutland MS
Popadopoulos, Alex, Sasha Patel and Abigail Hobby - Alexander II

Elementary

Best of Show*

Mrs. Lin Carter's Class - Heard
Daniell, Caroline - Skyview
David, Sarah - Alexander II
Duncan, Paul - Taylor

1st Place

Anderson, Niko - Alexander II
Brown, Amber - Heritage
Elewellyn, Blake - Heritage
Elliott, Corey - Heard

Golmitz, Kees - Porter

Heard, Baylee - Alexander II
Hedley, Susie and Rachel Zion - Carter
Jordan, Diorian - Bernd
King, Emily - Alexander II
Lewis, Taylor - Taylor
Martin, Hunter - Springdale
Midkiff, Maggie - Taylor
Pridgen, Autumn - Alexander II
Rogers, Anna - Vineville
Saldivar, Jenny - Heritage
Shepherd, Miranda - Skyview
Sparks, Patrick - Taylor
Ken Wallace's Class Project - Bernd
Wainwright, Conor - Springdale
Williams, Parker Brown - Taylor

2nd Place

Bowen, Sydney - Heritage
Chaplin, Ross - Porter
Ford, Blake - Heard
Idenden, Laura - Taylor
Litton, Brittany - Union
Long, Dakota - Alexander II
Sanders, Brandon - Heard
Thornton, Kate - Alexander I
Wilson, Ben - Lane
Wingfield, Derian - Union

3rd Place

Avant, Caroline and Stacy Garrett - Carter
Bardash, Cameron - Alexander II
Byrd, Jenna - Heard
Cannon, Christopher - Carter
Davis, DeErrik - Bernd
Dixon, Brittany - Springdale

Dye, Jay and Sarah Hulett - Heard
Edmunds, Kathryn - Porter
Farmer, Nathan - Carter
Fillingham, Hinson - Alexander
Flowers, Jazmen - Springdale
Mrs. Foster's Class - Hartley
Fuller, Kiara - Riley
Gates, Emory - Brookdale
Green, Shakira - Riley
Gupta, Shruti - Springdale
Hatcher, Deja - Skyview
Henry, Megan - Porter
Howell, Lauren - Springdale
Hughes, Kierra - Riley
Huston, Jamarquise, Anthony Sanders, Walter Hoskins, and Daniel Davis - Bernd
James, Brandon - Union
Kelly, Jessica - Lane
Kim, Rosa - Lane
Lockett, Lywantra - Bernd
Maples, Matthew - Heritage
McCuen, Olivia - Springdale
McDaniel, Chelsea - Skyview
McMichael, Connor - Vineville
Smith, Kinye - Vineville
Torrey, Natalie - Skyview
Ken Wallace's Class Project - Bernd
Whitworth, Chloe - Taylor
Willis, Wesley - Skyview
Woodard, Jami - Heritage
Yarber, Promiss Yvonne - Union
Yarbrough, Tyesha - Hartley
Zeigler, Markesha - Ingram/Pye