

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Blue Ribbon Teacher Awards to Recognize Nashville Teachers Committed to Equity, Engagement, and Leadership

Acknowledged as model professionals, 50 teachers receive \$1,000 cash award and Southwest Airlines flight credit

NASHVILLE, TENN. – Oct. 28, 2021 – Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS), the Nashville Public Education Foundation (NPEF) and the Nashville’s Agenda Steering Committee recognized [the winners](#) of its annual Blue Ribbon Teacher Awards in a reception on October 27, 2021. Founded in 2014, the awards honored 50 teachers who join more than 300 of Nashville’s top public school educators named to this distinction to date. Along with Blue Ribbon designation, each teacher received a cash prize of \$1,000, a trophy and a round-trip airline ticket donated by Southwest Airlines.

"Congratulations to each of this year’s Blue Ribbon Teacher winners on their well-deserved, hard-earned awards," **Director of Schools Dr. Adrienne Battle** said. "Their creativity, innovation, leadership, resilience, commitment to equity and, above all, relentless dedication to their students' success are inspiring to all of us. The Nashville Public Education Foundation deserves heartfelt thanks for continuing to recognize the importance of great teaching in this special way."

Winners are determined following a rigorous selection process that includes a review of evidence of outstanding teaching practices by a team of experts. This year, the awards focused on recognizing teachers demonstrating their dedication, efforts, and exemplary outcomes in the categories of equity, engagement, and leadership.

"For the second year running, teachers have faced the challenge of engaging students in times of incredible uncertainty, advancing student learning and providing stability and consistency in unpredictable times," said **Katie Cour, President and CEO of the Nashville Public Education Foundation**. "Every year, but especially in these times, Blue Ribbon Teachers exemplify what it takes to advance engaging educational experiences, and we are proud to celebrate them."

Furthering its commitment to engage teachers dedicated to creating equitable schools, the Nashville Public Education Foundation also opened applications this week to its inaugural [Teacherpreneur program](#) in partnership with Amazon. The program is designed to harness educator innovation in MNPS to create scalable solutions that remove inequities in schools. The top teacher-led concepts will receive more than \$25,000 to operationalize and scale their solutions.

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About the Nashville Public Education Foundation

The Nashville Public Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization that works to remove barriers for students by promoting excellence, serving as a critical friend to Metro Nashville Public Schools, convening stakeholders, and advocating for change so all students can thrive in school. More information is available at nashvillepef.org.

About Metro Nashville Public Schools

Metro Nashville Public Schools is one of the nation's top 50 largest school districts, preparing more than 80,000 students for higher education, work and life. With the goal of being the premier large urban school district in Tennessee and beyond, MNPS wants to ensure Every Student is Known by meeting focused outcomes that will help each child achieve growth from an academic and social-emotional perspective. The governing body for Metro Schools is the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Public Education, a nine-member elected body. For more information, visit MNPS.org, or follow us on Twitter [@MetroSchools](https://twitter.com/MetroSchools) or Facebook.com/MetroSchools.

About Nashville's Agenda

Founded in 1993 as a creation from Leadership Nashville, the Nashville's Agenda Steering Committee was created to keep ongoing civic attention around the forward vision of the city. It remains a powerful civic force still today, counting among its members top CEOs, heads of the city's major philanthropic organizations, key elected leaders, faith leaders, community leaders, and more.

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