

Jeffco Public Schools Math Teacher Honored by President Obama

Littleton, CO, August 26, 2016 – Normandy Elementary math teacher Carrie Jordan is among the 213 teachers in the nation to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Jordan and her fellow recipients will receive their awards at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on September 8, though Normandy Elementary Principal Rebecca Chao and the school staff celebrated Jordan’s award this week. “She is a remarkable teacher and great ambassador for education,” said Chao. “We are so proud.”

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is awarded to outstanding K-12 science and math teachers across the county. Winners receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at their discretion.

“My personal mission is to be a teacher that makes a positive difference in my students’ lives, instills a love of learning, an understanding of the importance of an education, and leaves a lasting impression on them,” said Jordan. “As a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching award, my continued efforts, work, and mission are acknowledged, validated, and valued.”

Carrie Jordan is in her 23rd year at Normandy Elementary, where she has taught first, fifth, and sixth grade. She currently teaches fourth grade, including an accelerated math class. Her lessons include “active math” where students act-out math processes, draw pictures, and use “cheerleader” moves to show geometry.

As a fifth and sixth grade teacher, Jordan provided a Math Club for struggling students. She implemented an interactive civics unit by allowing students to take part in a model town. Jordan also led students in an annual district curriculum which included a week-long outdoor-based educational experience in the Rocky Mountains. She runs the school Science Fair and has presented her “active math” idea at the local CORE Knowledge conference. Carrie also trained staff members on INTEL: Teach to the future. She is in the process of getting Google Educator Certified.

Jordan has a B.A. in Communications and a Certificate of Elementary Education from the State University of New York - Brockport, and a M.A. in Administration Supervision Curriculum Development - Instructional Technology, from the University of Colorado at Denver.

About Jeffco Public Schools

Jeffco Public Schools has been providing educational excellence for more than 60 years. Approximately nine percent of all the K-12 students in Colorado attend a Jeffco school. Our mission is to provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future. The district serves over 86,000 students at 155 schools. Find [Jeffco Public Schools](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 22, 2016

President Obama Honors Outstanding Mathematics and Science Teachers

WASHINGTON, DC -- President Obama today named 213 mathematics and science teachers as recipients of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. These awardees represent all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, U.S. Territories, and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools. The educators will receive their awards at a ceremony in Washington, DC on September 8.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is awarded to outstanding K-12 science and mathematics teachers from across the country. The winners are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators following an initial selection process at the state level. Each nomination year of the award alternates between teachers in the kindergarten through 6th grade level, and those teaching 7th through 12th grades. The cohort of awardees named today represent two nomination years, one of teachers in kindergarten through 6th grade classrooms and the other in 7th through 12th grade classrooms.

Winners of this Presidential honor receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at their discretion, and are invited to Washington, DC, for an awards ceremony, as well educational and celebratory events, and visits with members of the Administration.

"The recipients of this award are integral to ensuring our students are equipped with critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are vital to our Nation's success," President Obama said. "As the United States continues to lead the way in the innovation that is shaping our future, these excellent teachers are preparing students from all corners of the country with the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills that help keep us on the cutting-edge."

President Obama and his Administration have taken significant steps to strengthen education in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields in order to fully harness the promise our Nation's students. The President's Educate to Innovate campaign, launched in November 2009, has resulted in more than \$1 billion in private investment for improving K-12 STEM education. Additionally, in 2011, the President set an ambitious goal to put 100,000 additional excellent STEM teachers in America's classrooms by 2021. Thanks to the work of more than 280 organizations, 30,000 new STEM teachers have already been trained, and resources are in place to train an additional 70,000 STEM teachers by 2021. In parallel, the President has called for increasing the proficiency of America's existing STEM teachers with a Master Teacher Corps initiative, which would identify the most effective K-12 STEM teachers and support them in a program to propagate their best practices with their peers. You can read more about the President's commitment to science, technology, and innovation [HERE](#).

The recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching are listed below, by nomination cohort and then by state.

To learn more about these extraordinary teachers, please visit: <https://recognition.paemst.org>