

News Release

HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Teachers of the Year Selected

Each of the District's four schools recently selected a Teacher of the Year, as well as one District Educational Services Professional – they are as follows:

Carol Dempsey at Village School, Susan Fullilove-Felice at Indian Hill School, Sean Dowd at William R. Satz School, Marianne Connelly at Holmdel High School, and Barbara Rosen as our District Educational Services Professional.

These five educators were nominated by their peers for their exceptional contributions in using effective instructional techniques and methods, establishing a productive classroom climate and rapport with students, developing feelings of self-worth and love of learning in their students, and utilizing educational technology in an effective and efficient manner. A selection panel, established in accordance with state regulations, reviewed the nominations and made the final determinations.

Mrs. Dempsey joined Village School in 2004 as a Media Specialist. Over the years she has continued to shine as a dedicated professional, truly committed to the children of Village School. She creates an energetic and positive atmosphere for her children, always allowing creativity and a love of learning to shine through.

Mrs. Dempsey wears a number of hats at Village School. Not only is she an outstanding media specialist, but she also helps to provide supplemental literacy instruction to some of our children. This is a tremendous help, in fostering a love of learning at a very early age to help students meet with success. Mrs. Dempsey has also taken ownership of getting our recently installed Rain Gardens utilized in a way that ties into our curriculum. She has developed lessons to help staff and students enjoy this real life space to understand our environment. She has gone above and beyond to connect with many stakeholders to make this a success for our community.

We applaud Mrs. Dempsey on her achievements and offer sincere congratulations for her well deserved honor of being Village School's Teacher of the Year!



Mrs. Carol Dempsey,
Village School



Ms. Barbara Rosen,
District

Mrs. Rosen joined the Holmdel School district in 1989 as a speech therapist. Over the years she has been a tremendous presence in all of our schools. She is currently housed at Village School where she works with our primary students. Her commitment to education and learning is without question.

Mrs. Rosen's students are encouraged to become self-advocates, thus fostering their confidence and independence. She provides her children with various learning opportunities to enhance instruction and help them achieve success. Mrs. Rosen is also always eager to share her expertise with colleagues, understanding she is contributing to so many students' success with the help of her peers. She is not only seen as an expert in her field, but also as someone people can rely on for advice and offering a helping hand when needed. She is truly a people person in this profession where people count for everything we hope to accomplish.

We are honored to be able to share this celebration with Mrs. Rosen. She is commended for her professionalism and commitment to education here in Holmdel!



Ms. Susan Fullilove-Felice,
Indian Hill School

Susan Fullilove Felice has been a dedicated teacher for the last 17 years and represents the highest ideals of teaching. Susan fosters a love of reading and writing that makes the struggling student blossom and the gifted student thrive. Her personalized approach to teaching is pedagogy at its finest. Susan continues to work tirelessly to develop, implement, and help fellow colleagues with new and innovative teaching strategies. She always seems to make learning literacy authentic for the learner, which is not always an easy task for 11 year olds. It is often heard from parents that their child didn't like to read and write until they had Mrs. Fullilove-Felice. What better legacy for a teacher than fostering a love of reading and writing for future generations.

Mr. Sean Dowd has served as an English teacher at Satz since 2003. As a classroom teacher, Mr. Dowd is both innovative and energetic. Time after time Mr. Dowd provides his students with assignments that are not only multi-sensory and creative, but also imaginative, inventive and technology-infused.



Being the consummate educator, Mr. Dowd encourages his students to become self-advocates, and to have confidence and pride in the work they produce both in and out of the classroom.

Sean Dowd
Wm. R. Satz School

Given the amount of extra-curricular activities he's involved in, it is apparent that Mr. Dowd has no problem getting involved and contributing his time towards enriching the lives of the students we all serve.

Currently, Mr. Dowd serves as director for the fall play, co-advisor for Student Council and the Future City Engineers club, and as advisor for Project Plus, which is responsible for coordination of the Satz Geography Bee, Spelling Bee, Battle of the Books, and Science Olympiad. A resident of Holmdel, Mr. Dowd also serves as the Satz School teacher representative for the HFEE. He is also active in HTEA, serving the position as Pride Chair, coordinating events for the district such as the blood drive.

Mr. Dowd is well-respected by his students and staff alike. Congratulations Mr. Dowd, on your well deserved honor.



Marianne Connelly
Holmdel High School

Marianne Connelly has been a member of the English and Visual & Performing Arts departments since her arrival at Holmdel High School in September of 1993. During that time, she has taught all levels of English, but especially 12th grade English Literature. She currently instructs 9th grade students in a collaborative format with Ms. Bandini. Ms. Connelly has been instrumental in bringing a vibrant Acting curriculum to Holmdel, and is the creator of the very popular “**Acting Showcase**” a twice-yearly culminating experience for the students in her Acting classes.

It was said recently of Ms. Connelly by a colleague: “she teaches to the individual...her vibrancy and acting bring the lessons to life...her use of humor, during class, keeps the students engaged in the lesson for the entire period...she has an uncanny ability to connect lessons to pop culture and the students easily grasp the concepts because she is speaking their language...she sees the potential in every student and continuously researches new techniques and ideas to enhance the learning experience for all...some people just have the gift to teach and Marianne does it with ease...I am in awe of her and she inspires me each and every day.”

High praise indeed, and we concur wholeheartedly. Congratulations!