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State Board District 11 Teacher of the Year Announced

Matthew C. Luginbill is 2018 Teacher of the Year for State Board of Education District 11 and one of five finalists for the 2018 Ohio Teacher of the Year, according to an announcement made by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria. An early childhood educator for the past 15 years, Luginbill currently is a kindergarten teacher at Cuyahoga Heights Elementary School. He also recently earned his doctorate from the urban education program at Cleveland State University.

“Teachers are changing lives and creating futures – not only for the students, but for our communities, our state and our nation,” DeMaria said. “The Ohio Teacher of the Year program recognizes influential and inspiring educators who demonstrate some of the things I love most about teachers: they take our system to higher heights and continue the path toward excellence.”

The Ohio Department of Education invited school districts to nominate teachers for the District 11 award. State Board of Education member Meryl Johnson worked with a committee of educators, parents and business leaders to select Luginbill as the recipient.

Johnson said, “Dr. Luginbill has a wealth of experience in education, which includes monthly field trips to connect content to real-world experiences on a regional level as well as building upon students’ problem-solving and critical thinking skills through innovative educational methods and activities. I was able to witness those innovations when I visited his classroom this summer.”

Cuyahoga Heights Schools Superintendent Tom Evans said, “Matthew Luginbill is a passionate and engaged teacher who loves his profession almost as much as he loves his students. His adept use of 21st century technology, including a blog and the use of Google classroom, is a successful way for families to be engaged with their young learners’ school days.”

This fall, the state superintendent will announce the Ohio Teacher of the Year, who is selected from the pool of State Board district winners by a panel of education and community stakeholders. The Ohio Teacher of the Year will represent our state in the national Teacher of the Year competition sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers in 2018.

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Note: Photographs and more information about State Board District Teachers of the Year are available [here](#).