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Contact:
Brittany Halpin
(614) 728-5959

State Board District 6 Teacher of the Year Announced

Jonathan Juravich is 2018 Teacher of the Year for State Board of Education District 6 and one of five finalists for 2018 Ohio Teacher of the Year, according to an announcement made by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria. An art teacher at Liberty Tree Elementary School in Olentangy Local Schools since 2005, Juravich also coaches cross country and track at Hyatt Middle School in Olentangy, serves as an adjunct instructor at Otterbein University and collaborates with the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

“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 6 award. State Board of Education member Dr. Antoinette Miranda worked with a committee of educators, parents and business leaders to select Juravich as the recipient.

Dr. Miranda said, “Mr. Juravich exemplifies what truly great teachers are made of. He is creative, compassionate, active in our community, incredibly talented and he truly cares about each student. District 6 is fortunate to have an educator like Mr. Juravich, and we are so proud of his accomplishments.”

Olentangy Local Schools Supervisor of Elementary Curriculum Anthony Elkins said, “It is often said that we choose to do things not because they are easy, but because they are hard. This statement best exemplifies the way I view Mr. Juravich. Rather than take the path of least resistance, he chooses, while sometimes difficult, to take the path that puts students first.”

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](#).