



**For immediate release:**  
Aug. 9, 2017

**Contact:**  
Brittany Halpin  
(614) 728-5959

### **State Board District 8 Teacher of the Year Announced**

Kiel Gallina is 2018 Teacher of the Year for State Board of Education District 8, according to an announcement made by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria. Gallina has been teaching in Ohio for nine years, including the past two years as an intervention specialist at Lake Middle School in the Lake Local School District.

“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 8 award. State Board of Education member Nancy Hollister worked with a committee of educators, parents and business leaders to select Gallina as the recipient.

Hollister said, “Mr. Gallina is a tremendous role model who is constantly searching for new methods of instruction and learning tools to better engage and equip his students for their learning. We are proud to recognize him for his compassion, creativity and passion for his students.”

Lake Middle School Principal Brian Reed said, “Mr. Gallina creates a positive atmosphere within his classroom where it is evident to any who enter and observe that he has built and cultivated positive relationships with every one of his students. He teaches each of his lessons with enthusiasm and creativity.”

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.

-30-

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