

Kristin Michalski Named State Finalist for Presidential Teaching Award



East Troy Teacher Named Finalist for Presidential Award for Excellence

EAST TROY, Wis. — A East Troy High School teacher has been named a finalist for a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Kristin Michalski, who teaches physics, astronomy and Project Lead the Way, is one of just five finalists from the state of Wisconsin. **The award is the highest honor the U.S. government provides to middle and high school math and science teachers nationwide.**

“We are very proud of Kristin and are thrilled that her excellent work in the classroom is being recognized at the national level,” said Dr. Chris Hibner, superintendent of the East Troy Community School District. “Kristin is well known among students, families and her colleagues for her knowledge and dedication to the teaching profession. This is another point of pride for our entire school district community.”

The PAEMST program was established by Congress in 1983 to recognize secondary-level educators who deliver high-quality instruction that enhances student learning. Over the past 34 years, the program has honored more than 4,700 teachers throughout the United States.

“It is a true honor to be named a finalist for this award alongside four other talented educators in the state of Wisconsin,” Michalski said. “I have always been proud to be a teacher, knowing all the work we do impacts students and their futures. I think science education is especially important because it helps us understand the world, including how we can preserve it, improve it and live in it. This recognition would not be possible without a sound foundation created by great mentors of past and present colleagues and administration, and my students and their families always challenging me to meet the needs of the East Troy Community.”

Now that she is a finalist, Michalski will be judged by a national committee organized through the National Science Foundation. The foundation administers the PAEMST program on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Educators are evaluated based on the following five principles:

- Mastery of mathematics or science content appropriate for the grade level taught
- Use of instructional methods and strategies that are appropriate for students in the class and support student learning
- Effective use of student assessments to evaluate, monitor and improve student learning
- Reflective practice and lifelong learning to improve teaching and student learning
- Leadership in education outside the classroom

The committee will select one science and one math teacher from each state to receive the award. Honorees have access to professional development opportunities and a \$10,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

To learn more about the PAEMST program, visit <https://www.paemst.org>