



Oregon Small Schools Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OSSA names 2023 Teacher of the Year from Scio serving at the Centennial Elementary School in the Scio School District:

Scio, OR – The Oregon Small Schools Association (OSSA) is proud to announce that Ms. Michelle LeFeber has been named its 2023 Teacher of the Year. LeFeber teaches at Centennial Elementary School located in Scio, Oregon.

In her nomination letter her Principal, Kimberlee Roth, stated:

“Michelle LeFeber has been a highly respected member of our staff for over 22 years. She is currently serving as a 2nd grade teacher at Centennial Elementary and is a teacher leader for Scio School District. As her current building principal, I have had the pleasure of teaching with her for many years and collaborating with her to make our school and district a better place for our students.

Michelle LeFeber embodies the qualities inherent in the very best educators: intelligence, compassion, a sense of fairness, rigorous standards for herself and her students and the desire for self-improvement in her profession. Her energy and enthusiasm for teaching draws the students in, motivating them to give their best effort. She encourages and nurtures an atmosphere in the classroom where all students’ ideas are respected and valued. She sets high expectations for her students and encourages them to take risks in their learning. She is reflective in her practice and is a master at using data to improve her practice in the classroom.

Over the last two years, Michelle LeFeber has been working with Western Regional Educators Network and the Linn Benton Lincoln ESD to develop a mentorship program for new teachers in our district. As we have seen an influx of new teachers in our district she saw the need to provide better support and had a desire to give back to those just beginning a career in the area she loves. She has created a program that supports mentors as well as the new teachers and her success has been used to support mentorship in other districts.

Michelle LeFeber is an incredible teacher and our staff, students, parents, and community would be incredibly proud to have her considered for OSSA Teacher of the Year. I cannot think of a more deserving educator that has created a greater impact on several generations of our small community's students."

Ms. LeFeber will receive her OSSA 2023 Teacher of the Year award at the Oregon Small School Annual Breakfast held November 11, 2023 at the OSBA Annual Convention located in Portland, OR at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel.

The OSSA Board of Directors is very happy to honor Ms. Michelle LeFeber this year. She is an exemplary teacher/leader who works tirelessly to improve the success of her students and the community she serves in.

The OSSA recognizes one teacher each year who excels in his/her teaching assignment. Criteria include integrity, leadership, and commitment to community, scholarship and student achievement. OSSA serves as an advocate for the benefits of rural education and small schools across the state. For more information, visit the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators website click the link to the Oregon Small Schools Association @ www.oregonssa.org or Michael Carter, OSSA Executive Director @ carter.michael@lakeview.k12.or.us or call 541-947-3347.

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