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New Hampshire

Department of Education

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Semi-finalists chosen for New Hampshire's 2024 Teacher of the Year

CONCORD, NH (May 26, 2023) — The New Hampshire Department of Education is pleased to announce the 20 semi-finalists for the 2024 New Hampshire Teacher of the Year Award – the highest number of semi-finalists ever recognized. The teachers were selected from a record number of 92 nominees and include educators from every sector of the state.

The semi-finalists are:

First Name	Last Name	Teacher's School	Town
Eric	Bowman	Contoocook Valley Regional High School	Peterborough
Ritu	Budakoti	Keene Middle School	Keene
Heather	Burkett	Hampstead Central School	Hampstead
Karen	Cyr-Condon	Southside Middle School	Manchester
Jacqueline	DeFreze	Rye Elementary School	Rye
Sean	Donahue	McKelvie Intermediate School	Bedford
Kimberly	Dorman	Colebrook Academy and Elementary School	Colebrook
Justine	Dube	Parker-Varney Elementary School	Manchester
Elizabeth	Duclos	Pembroke Hill School	Pembroke
Erin	Hollingsworth	Gilmanton School	Gilmanton IW
Anna	Jennison	Beech Street School	Manchester
Jennifer	Lambert	Groveton Elementary School	Groveton
Caitlin	Lomando	Mt. Pleasant School	Nashua
Jennifer	Menken	Hooksett Memorial School	Hooksett
Gregory	Parker	Manchester Memorial High School	Manchester
Robert	Pooler	Hollis Upper Elementary School	Hollis
Natalie	Sears	Manchester Central High School	Manchester
Sarah	Strauss	Clark-Wilkins Elementary School	Amherst
Scott	Thibodeau	Pembroke Academy	Pembroke
Andrea	von Oeyen	Oyster River Middle/High Schools	Durham

“This year we had an impeccable group of educators who were nominated. We believe this cohort of semi-finalists represent some of the very best of New Hampshire’s talented and devoted field of teachers – teachers that deserve both praise and gratitude for their commitment to today’s youth,” said Christine Brennan, deputy commissioner of education.

Commissioner Frank Edelblut echoed those sentiments, adding the twenty semi-finalists showcase the proud tradition of teaching excellence in the Granite State. “We are thrilled to recognize so many educators who are setting the bar high and truly making a difference for our students,” he said, adding the teaching profession in New Hampshire – with a record number of educator renewals last year – is defying national trends.

A final recipient will be selected this fall. The 2024 Teacher of the Year will be New Hampshire’s entrant in the National Teacher of the Year program, which is run by the Council of Chief State School Officers.

