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Contact: Steve Edwards
Coordinator of Policy and Public Information
540-662-3888 x 88235

Apple Federal Credit Union Education Foundation to Sponsor 2008 FCPS Teacher of the Year Award

The Apple Federal Credit Union Education Foundation will sponsor the 2008 Frederick County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Award. The Foundation's Executive Director, Mike Engley, says getting involved with the Teacher of the Year program is another way for AFCU, through its foundation, to expand its partnership with Frederick County Public Schools.

The Education Foundation will provide \$3,000 to Frederick County Public Schools through the Frederick County Educational Foundation and the money will be earmarked for the winner of the 2008 Teacher of the Year Award. The funds will be made available to the Teacher of the Year to cover the cost of educational materials, supplies, or travel. In addition to the monetary award, the Teacher of the Year will receive a plaque and their name will be placed on a permanent plaque in the board room at the Frederick County Public Schools Administration Building.

Frederick County Public Schools initiated the Teacher of the Year program in 1990. Each school site nominates one candidate and they're asked to complete an application which is reviewed by the selection committee. The committee, which is comprised of community leaders and educators, selects three finalists to interview. The Teacher of the Year is announced at the school division's general convocation in August. Frederick County's Teacher of the Year represents the county as its nominee for the Virginia Teacher of the Year program.

The Teacher of the Year finalists will receive a plaque and a \$1,000 monetary award to be used for instructional materials, supplies, or travel.

Frederick County Public Schools also has an awards program recognizing support staff. The York Award is given to an employee who demonstrates excellence in their field, including clerical, nurse, accompanists, and classified employees in the administration building. The Macintosh Award is presented to an employee who serves the students of Frederick County as an aide. The Rome Award is given to an outstanding member of the food service staff. The Gala Award is presented to an employee who excels in the areas of maintenance, custodial, mechanics, courier, or security. An award is also presented to the Bus Driver of the Year.

Executive Director of Human Resources Larry Shobe says, "The Frederick County Public Schools awards programs are an excellent way to recognize the hard work of our employees to ensure all students an excellent education. The awards are a way to say thank you and show appreciation for the work that's done to support our students."

Apple Federal Credit Union, through its foundation, contributed \$5,000 to the Frederick County Educational Foundation for its 2007 Technology in the Classroom Grant Program. The goal of the program is to encourage teachers to develop technology specific activities, program, or services for students that clearly relate to improving academic achievement. It is the second consecutive year Apple Federal Credit Union has donated to that effort.

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