



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2019

Contact: Will Griffin or Frank O’Gara

Voice: (571) 372-0614 or (571) 372-0613

Email: william.griffin@dodea.edu

Frank.O’Gara@dodea.edu

DoDEA Announces 2020 Teacher of the Year

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA – Humphreys Middle School (Korea) math teacher Antoine Sharpe has been selected as the 2020 Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Teacher of the Year.



Sharpe has thirteen years’ teaching experience, four of which have been with DoDEA. He began his career teaching elementary school in North Carolina, and has taught robotics, physical education, STEM, multi-age science, band, home economics, elementary grade levels, and has even been a school bus driver.

Sharp was a military-connected child and former DoDEA student as well, moving eight times during his childhood. Because of these frequent moves, Sharpe is focused on providing support to military-connected children and has launched a program to assign students within his school with an adult ally.

The DoDEA Teacher of the Year Program recognizes and honors exemplary Pre-Kindergarten through high school teachers. The process begins at the district level where teachers are nominated by peers, administrators, parents, students or community members. Each District Teacher of the Year is selected by a district panel using specified criteria to review applications. Eight teachers were named District Teacher of the Year for 2020. Each District Teacher of the Year is invited to apply for the DoDEA Teacher of the Year.

DoDEA Director Thomas M. Brady spoke to Sharpe’s teaching style and educational philosophy.

“Mr. Sharpe believes that learning should be enjoyable and brought alive through active student engagement,” said Brady. “His approach to making math relatable to students' current lives ignites their enthusiasm, as he stresses the importance of financial literacy as well as the College and Career Readiness Math standards.”

-more-

DoDEA 2020 Teacher of the Year/2-2-2

Brady also commented how Sharpe embodies DoDEA's core values, especially his focus on being student-centered.

“Mr. Sharpe is passionate about creating equitable access for all students and ensuring that educators understand the need for culturally relevant approaches to teaching and learning to meet every child at the point of their needs. He believes that educators must continually self-reflect and educate themselves so that they are accepting and understanding of all students no matter their background. DoDEA is truly fortunate to have such a powerful educator teaching our students,” he added.

Sharpe earned a master's degree in Executive Leadership/School Administration from Gardner-Webb University and a bachelor's degree in Math/Science Middle Grades Education from East Carolina University. He is also a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT).

Sharpe has served as the Continuous Improvement Coordinator/ School Quality Factor Team Member/ Testing Coordinator, NBCT Support Group Facilitator, Beginning Teacher Mentor, DoDEA Educational Partnership Technology Implementation Facilitator, Grant Coordinator, and the Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) Coordinator.

Sharpe is the first African-American male to receive the honor of DoDEA Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Linda L. Curtis, DoDEA's Principal Deputy Director and Associate Director of Academics, said, “Mr. Sharpe has an excellent background in multi-age classrooms and has made himself available for many leadership roles over the years. He is passionate about the whole child and extends himself in order to really assist students in their learning and in building strong citizens. It is rewarding to have Antoine Sharpe representing DoDEA as the 2020 DoDEA Teacher of the Year.”

Along with the public recognition and the award, Sharpe will gain entry into the National Teacher of the Year application pool and will be recognized by the President (pending scheduling) at a future event at the White House. Sharpe will also attend the National Teacher of the Year Conference and participate in the Council of Chief of State School Officers (CCSSO)-sponsored Teacher of the Year events.

The year of service for the 2020 Teacher of the Year begins on Jan. 1, 2020 and runs through Dec. 31, 2020. The selection is made months before the term begins to allow the DoDEA candidate and other candidates from the 50 states time to participate in the National Teacher of the Year program, which selects a finalist in December. The current (2019) DoDEA Teacher of the Year term runs through the end of December 2019.

A complete listing of the 2020 DoDEA District Teacher of the Year recipients is listed on the next page. Additional information about [DoDEA's Teacher of the Year Program](#), including point of contact, may be found on the DODEA website.

-more-

DoDEA 2020 Teacher of the Year/3-3-3

DoDEA plans, directs, coordinates, and manages Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade education programs for school-aged children of Department of Defense personnel who would otherwise not have access to a high-quality public education. DoDEA schools are located in Europe, the Pacific, Western Asia, the Middle East, Cuba, the United States, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

DoDEA also provides support and resources to local education agencies throughout the U.S. that serve children of military families.

DoDEA District 2020 Teacher of the Year Recipients

(Listed alphabetically by last name)

2020 TOYs	District	School	Position
Rachel Baker	Pacific East	Ikego Elementary School	Fifth grade teacher
Patricia Crow	Europe West	Lakenheath Elementary School	Second grade teacher
Kari Dahl	Americas Mid-Atlantic	Poole Elementary School	Gifted education teacher
Alysia Durham	Americas Southeast	Fort Campbell High School	Ninth to 12th grade math teacher
Stacy Knappe	Europe South	Vicenza High School	AP literature/ English 12/Drama ninth to 12th grade teacher
Dawn MacFarland	Europe East	Stuttgart High School	Ninth to 12th grade English language arts/Humanities teacher
Dr. Tracey Rice	Pacific South	Kadena Elementary School	English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) specialist
Antoine Sharpe	Pacific West	Humphreys Middle School	Seventh grade math teacher