



# Stafford Public Schools

## Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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Steven A. Moccio  
*Superintendent of Schools*

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Dear Staff, Parents, and Community Members:

The Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program was initiated in 1952 and is one of the oldest and most prestigious honors through which excellence in teaching is recognized. Through an annual process, beginning at the local school district level and continuing to the national level, the program celebrates teachers that have distinguished themselves in the profession and have inspired a love of learning in their students.

Nominated by her colleagues and selected by a district committee of her peers, I am pleased to announce that **Mrs. Adrian DePellegrini is the Stafford 2023 Teacher of the Year**. Adrian is a graduate of Central Connecticut State University, where she earned a B.S. in Mathematics in 2010 and a Masters of Science in Education, Reading and Literacy from Walden University in 2014. She began her career in August 2013 as a second grade teacher at Stafford Elementary School. Mrs. DePellegrini has been instrumental at supporting the development and innovation of several key district initiatives including the revised elementary standards-based report card, Portrait of the Graduate Framework, and Curriculum Writer's Handbook through the Curriculum Advisory Council. Mrs. DePellegrini has served as a grade level teacher leader for her team and has been paramount at supporting the development of the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program at Stafford Elementary School.

In her nomination from a colleague, the dedication Adrian has to growing Stafford as a premier educational institution was exemplified. "Adrian's love of teaching is apparent from the moment you step into her classroom. I thoroughly enjoy walking into Adrian's room. She creates a warm, safe environment where each child is welcomed with open arms." Adrian continues to extend her own professional learning into the toolbox of the educators she works alongside. Her professional learning facilitation includes restorative practices, ReadConn, and PBIS lesson models.

Other staff members who were finalists in the selection process include: Kelly Murdock, SMS; Eileen Laramie, SHS (2013 SPS Teacher of the Year), and Marcia Jacobs, K-5 Mathematics Leader. Please join me in congratulating all of our nominees and wishing Adrian well as she represents Stafford Public Schools in the State competition.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Moccio  
Superintendent of Schools