



NEWS RELEASE

Utah State Board of Education

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2019 Utah Teacher of the Year Finalists Named

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education today announced the five finalists for 2019 Utah Teacher of the Year. They are:

- Archer James Birrell, a fourth grade teacher at [Hillside Elementary School](#) in the Granite School District.
- Jeffrey R. Jackson, a German and math teacher at [T.H. Bell Junior High School](#) in the Weber School District.
- Anjanette McNeely, a kindergarten teacher [Layton Elementary School](#) in the Davis School District.
- Kellie May, a social studies and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) teacher at [West High School](#) in the Salt Lake City School District and an associate instructor at the [Urban Institute for Teacher Education](#) at the University of Utah.
- Stephanie Roper, a K-5 Title I reading and math teacher at [Ferron Elementary](#) and [Cottonwood Elementary](#) schools in the Emery School District.

A panel with representatives from teachers, parents, charter schools, the Utah State Board of Education and [2018 Utah Teacher of the Year Aaryn Birchell](#) selected the finalists from among the 32 district and charter school teachers of the year from throughout the state. The five were interviewed and a 2019 Utah Teacher of the Year and two runners up were selected but won't be announced until September 6 when a banquet will be held honoring all district and charter teachers of the year.

The 2019 Utah Teacher of the Year will represent Utah in the [National Teacher of the Year Program](#) in Washington, D.C. and will succeed Birchell, an English language arts teacher at Uintah High School in the Uintah School District.

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