



# NEWS RELEASE

## Utah State Board of Education

250 EAST 500 SOUTH P.O. BOX 144200 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84114-4200  
[www.schools.utah.gov](http://www.schools.utah.gov)

September 3, 2020

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mark Peterson, public relations director  
801-5387635 · [mark.peterson@schools.utah.gov](mailto:mark.peterson@schools.utah.gov)

### 2021 Utah Teacher of the Year Finalists Named

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education today announced the five finalists for 2021 Utah Teacher of the Year. They are:

- John Arthur, a sixth grade teacher at [Meadowlark Elementary](#) in the Salt Lake City School District.
- Rae Boren, an American Sign Language teacher at [Copper Hills High School](#) in the Jordan School District.
- Amy Grgich, a kindergarten teacher at [Stansbury Park Elementary](#) in the Tooele School District.
- Emma Moss, a Career and Technical Education teacher at [Eastmont Middle School](#) in the Canyons School District.
- Ryan Wells, a Spanish teacher at [Taylorsville High School](#) in the Granite School District.

A panel with representatives from teachers, parents, charter schools, the Utah State Board of Education and [2020 Utah Teacher of the Year Lauren Merkley](#) selected the finalists from among the district and charter school teachers of the year from throughout the state to select a winning teacher. The announcement will be made on October 1.

The 2021 Utah Teacher of the Year will represent Utah in the [National Teacher of the Year Program](#) in Washington, D.C. and will succeed Merkley, who is an English teacher at Cottonwood High School in the Granite School District.

[www.schools.utah.gov](http://www.schools.utah.gov)