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For Immediate Release

Contact: Milo Maughan, secondary science education specialist
801-538-7808 · milo.maughan@schools.utah.gov

Utah State Board of Education Announces Finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education is pleased to announce the names of the six 2025 Utah finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

2025 Utah Secondary Mathematics Finalists:

- Kristen Reuter, Brighton High School, Canyons School District
- Melissa Shreve, Ogden High School, Ogden School District
- Christie Tolbert, Salem Hills High School, Nebo School District

2025 Utah Secondary Science Finalists:

- Doug Ball, Syracuse High School, Davis School District
- Rebecca McKinney, Weber High School, Weber School District
- Judith Neugebauer, Northwest Middle School, Salt Lake City School District

“State PAEMST finalists are among the most outstanding educators in Utah. These educators serve as both a model and an inspiration to students and fellow teachers,” said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Sydnee Dickson. In the coming months, these state finalists’ applications will be reviewed by a national selection committee composed of K–12 teachers, administrators, university professors, and STEM education researchers who will meet to select the one PAEMST awardee in each award category, mathematics and science, at the national level.

The teachers chosen to be Presidential Awardees will be announced by the White House and honored at a celebration in Washington, D.C. Additionally, they will receive \$10,000 from the National Science Foundation and join a cadre of award-winning teachers who can impact STEM education in our state and nationally.

PAEMST is the highest honor bestowed by the United States government specifically for K–12 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teaching. Finalists serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of STEM education. More information about PAEMST, including the form to nominate teachers for this award, can be found at <https://paemst.nsf.gov>.

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