

November 12, 2025

Dear River Edge School Community,

Our school district is full of dedicated teachers and educational services professionals who make a profound difference in the lives of our students and families every day. Each year the Department of Education asks districts to select a Teacher of the Year and an Educational Services Professional (ESP) of the Year for recognition.

These awards celebrate the remarkable professionals who work with our students and go above and beyond in their roles to ensure the success of every student. I invite any stakeholder in River Edge to take a moment to nominate an individual who embodies the excellence and commitment to building our students' brighter futures.

Nominees must be highly skilled, dedicated teachers, or serve in an eligible educational services role (e.g., guidance counselor, school nurse, psychologist). They must have a current evaluation of at least Effective and show leadership, innovation, and an ability to inspire students. Candidates should actively collaborate with colleagues and demonstrate respect within the school community. They must not have received this award in the last five years.

Please note that the selection of nominees is not based on years of service, but rather on merit and leadership, recognizing the impact these educators have made on not only individual students a but the entire school community.

Each nomination will be reviewed by River Edge's selection panel representing a cross-section of administrators, teachers, educational services professionals, parents, and local education association representatives. The panel will evaluate each candidate based on the following criteria which is the basis for the nomination form: Skill and Dedication, Inspiration, Leadership and Innovation, Respect, Community Involvement.

Please nominate a deserving educator by Monday, November 24th by filling out the nomination form completely, providing detailed and specific examples for each criterion. The link to the form is included below, and incomplete submissions will result in diminished scores.

2026 River Edge Schools' Nomination Form: [CLICK HERE](#)

Sincerely,



Nicholas Bernice, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools