Dr. Monia Thomas is 2026 Delta TOTY

Brooks County Schools is proud to recognize Dr. Monia Thomas as the 2026 Teacher of the Year at Delta Innovative School. An educator with 19 years of teaching experience, including four years serving students in Brooks County, Dr. Thomas exemplifies dedication, leadership, and a passion for student success.

Currently serving as a Middle Grades Social Studies and English Language Arts teacher, as well as a Graduation Coach, Dr. Thomas is committed to helping students reach their full potential both inside and outside the classroom. Her educational accomplishments reflect her dedication to lifelong learning. She holds degrees from Valdosta State University (Bachelor's Degree in Education, Educational Specialist in Educational Leadership), Cambridge College (Master's in Education), and Walden University (Educational Specialist in Educational Leadership, Doctorate of Education in Educational Administration and Leadership.)

Dr. Thomas believes one of the greatest challenges in education is meeting the diverse needs of all learners while keeping students engaged and motivated. She approaches this challenge with patience, creativity, and intentionality, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to succeed.

For Dr. Thomas, the most rewarding aspect of teaching is witnessing students grow academically, personally, and emotionally. She finds great fulfillment in helping students build confidence and achieve goals they once thought were impossible. One of her most cherished memories is watching students walk across the graduation stage after overcoming obstacles and persevering through challenges.

"I became a teacher because I have always had a passion for helping and encouraging others to reach their full potential," said Dr. Thomas. "I wanted to make a difference in students' lives by providing support, guidance, and opportunities for success."

Inspired by educators, family members, and mentors who demonstrated the power of compassion, patience, and dedication, Dr. Thomas strives to be the kind of teacher who encourages students to believe in themselves and never give up on their goals.

Delta Innovative School Principal Lamar Thomas says, "Excellence is not easy—but Dr. Thomas has made it look effortless. Throughout this year, we challenged ourselves to pursue excellence, and she has been the perfect example of what that truly looks like. Her dedication, professionalism, and willingness to go above and beyond for the students of Delta have been unmatched. She does everything with heart, purpose, and a spirit of excellence. We are beyond grateful for her impact and leadership. Congratulations to Dr. Thomas on being named the 2026 Teacher of the Year!"

Outside of her professional responsibilities, Dr. Thomas enjoys making jewelry, designing shirts, and baking cakes. She and her husband, George Thomas, are proud parents of three children: Jarvis, Lanience, and Imani, and they are the proud grandparents of Josiah Tatum Turner.

Brooks County Schools congratulates Dr. Monia Thomas on this well-deserved honor and thanks her for the positive impact she continues to make in the lives of students, families, and the community.