



## NEWS RELEASE

**Warren Consolidated Schools  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 3, 2019**

### **WCS Announces Outstanding Teacher of the Year Recipients for 2019; Denomme named Macomb County High School Teacher of the Year**

Warren, MI – Warren Consolidated Schools recently awarded **Lisa Denomme, Ryan VanThournout**, and **Julie Walters** as the district's Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipients for 2019.

Denomme, VanThournout, and Walters were among more than 100 Warren Consolidated teachers nominated for this award by fellow teachers, administrators, support staff, parents, and students. Nominated teachers are evaluated in ten categories such as, teaching style, motivational expertise, life-long learner, passion, and community focus.

"It is with great pride that the district recognizes these three educators for their outstanding commitment to our district, the high standards they set for themselves, and their dedication to ensuring all students have the opportunity to learn," Chief Academic Officer John Bernia said.

**Lisa Denomme** is an advanced placement English Language and Composition, and English 12 teacher at Sterling Heights High School. She has taught in the district for the past 20 years.

"It's an honor to be named Teacher of the Year," Denomme said. "I felt pride in myself, in my profession, in my school district. It is amazing."

Denomme says her favorite aspect of teaching is witnessing student growth and seeing a student appreciate the subject, master a concept, improve in writing or analysis, or experience a personal success outside of school.

Denomme received her Bachelor's degree from Wayne State University and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Saginaw Valley State University.

In addition to being named Warren Consolidated Schools Teacher of the Year, Denomme was named the Macomb Intermediate School District High School Teacher of the Year. Each year the MISD recognizes an outstanding teacher countywide at the elementary, middle school and high school levels.

**Ryan VanThournout** teaches eighth grade Social Studies and seventh grade Science at Beer Middle School. He has taught in the district for the past 10 years.

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“When I was named Teacher of the Year I was humbled and completely stunned.” VanThournout said. “I learned in December that I was nominated by students and I was deeply appreciative.”

VanThournout said his favorite aspect of teaching is his daily interaction with all his students and helping them reach their highest potential.

VanThournout holds a degree from Wayne State University.

**Julie Walters** teaches Kindergarten at Harwood Elementary. She has been with the district for the past 21 years.

“I am deeply honored to represent the district’s elementary schools as Teacher of the Year,” Walters said. “I am so very happy to share this honor with the students at Harwood Elementary.”

Walters says she enjoys the challenge of walking in each day ready to give the best of herself to the students and staff she works with. Walters loves providing a fun and safe learning environment where students can experience success, learn to be kind and contributing citizens and grow believing they can do anything they set their minds to.

Walters earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education, a Master’s Degree in Reading, and an Early Childhood Endorsement from Oakland University.

**Lisa Denomme, Ryan VanThournout,** and **Julie Walters** will be honored at the Macomb Intermediate School District Teacher of the Year celebration in April.

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