



For immediate release:

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Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance

Richmond, VA

On November 11, 2018, the Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (VAHPERD) will recognize their annual professional award winners. These outstanding professionals come from all over the state of Virginia and have demonstrated excellence in their award categories. Please review the list below for the award category and teacher selected for this year's recognition.

Elementary Physical Educator of the Year-Amy Riggio, Sanders Corner Elementary, Loudoun County, VA

Middle School Physical Educator of the Year-Andrew Wymer, Jackson P. Burley Middle School, Charlottesville, VA

Secondary Physical Educator of the Year- John Jones, Mt. Vernon High School, Alexandria, VA

Adapted Physical Educator of the Year-Robert Mages, Virginia Beach Public Schools Special Education Annex, Virginia Beach, VA

Jump Rope for Heart Recognition Award-Bryn Varhol, Churchill Road Elementary School, McClean, VA

College/University Health Teacher of the Year- Cathy McKay, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

College/University Physical Educator of the Year-Rodney Gaines, Hampton University, Hampton, VA

Recreation Professional- Michael Maina, Roanoke College, Roanoke, VA

**Pioneer Award** - Duke Conrad, retired from Newport News Public Schools **(11/10/18 – Award Program)**

Honor Award- Dee Castelvechi, Elizabeth Davis Middle School, Chesterfield County, VA

Physical Education Supervisor of the Year-John Trott, Hanover County, VA

Congratulations to these outstanding health, physical education, recreation and/or dance professionals. If you have questions regarding these individuals' accomplishments in their field, please contact

Anne McCoy, 2018 VAHPERD Awards Committee Chair (mccoyvahperd@gmail.com)