



The Department is excited to announce the nine finalists for the *New Teacher of the Year* award. These amazing educators have demonstrated excellence in their very first year in the classroom. Finalists will participate in an interview process, and the overall New Teacher of the Year will be announced at the *17<sup>th</sup> Annual Excellent Educators Awards Gala* that will be held on the evening of July 22, 2023. This exciting event is co-sponsored by [Dream Teachers](#).

Please congratulate this outstanding group of new teachers!

Category	Name	District
Elementary	Camille Cole	Bossier Parish
Elementary	Payton Onellion	Livingston Parish
Elementary	Rebecca Spears	St. Landry Parish
Middle	Emily Barker	Plaquemines Parish
Middle	Tristan George	Zachary Community Schools
Middle	Phoenix LeBlanc	Livingston Parish
High	Spencer Butts	Calcasieu Parish
High	Anthony Felder	West Baton Rouge Parish
High	Brad Winstead	Bossier Parish

For questions on the *New Teacher of the Year* program, please contact [Laurie.Carlton@la.gov](mailto:Laurie.Carlton@la.gov).

