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Top Idaho math teacher advances to nationals

(BOISE) – A math teacher from Timberline High School has been selected as the state’s finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

The 2019 Idaho PAEMST winner and national nominee for math is Jerod Morehouse.

“Mr. Morehouse is a shining example of the dedication our state’s math teachers make in helping our children prepare for success in today’s world,” said Sherri Ybarra, superintendent of public instruction. “Congratulations to him on this honor, and moving forward to represent Idaho at the national level.”

The PAEMST recognition is the nation's highest honor for teachers of mathematics and science. Awardees serve as “models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education,” according to the PAEMST website. Teachers seeking the nomination must submit a lengthy package of material demonstrating their capabilities in the classroom.

State nominees advance to the national competition, where typically one math teacher from each state is named as a winner of the presidential award if the national review committee agrees they meet the rigorous PAEMST standards. The annual awards alternate between elementary teachers and secondary teachers. This year’s nominees are for the secondary education cycle.

Morehouse earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics with an Emphasis on Education from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 2006. He began his teaching career as a secondary math teacher at Heritage Christian School in Anchorage, where he taught Pre-Algebra, Geometry, Algebra I & II, AP Calculus, and Latin. He also was an adjunct professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage, teaching college Algebra and Trigonometry.

In 2012, Morehouse started at Timberline High School in the Boise School District, where he has taught remedial Algebra and Geometry, AP Statistics, Algebra II, and Discrete Math. He has served as Timberline’s Mathematics Department chair since 2016.

His passion for teaching led him to complete a Master’s Degree in Mathematics Education at Boise State University in 2016. The focus of his graduate work was on the use of the flipped

method of instruction and its impact on student achievement and attitudes toward mathematics. He also serves as an instructor at the Modeling and Data Literacy Institute at Boise State University and as a participant in the Boise Math Teacher Circle.

He collaborates with other math educators regionally as a member of the Math Teacher Leader Network and at multiple AP Summer Institutes.

Outside of school, Jerod enjoys camping and hiking with his wife and three sons.

School administrators, educators and members of the community can nominate an educator for the PAEMST award at www.paemst.org. Educator can even nominate themselves. To submit a nomination, all that is needed is a teacher's contact information.

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Photo attached: Nichole Hall, the State Department of Education's Mathematics Team Lead, presents 2019 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching State Finalist Jerod Morehouse with his award at the state's recent STEM conference. Morehouse will now advance to the national competition.