

https://www.thenewsenterprise.com/news/education/larue-teachers-named-distinguished-educators/article_8fc159ba-be85-5b3c-98f0-24ecb0f1c72f.html

LaRue teachers named distinguished educators

Apr 27, 2021

Western Kentucky University announced winners of the second Distinguished Educator Awards, which includes a few LaRue County teachers.

“As graduation season nears and schools across the state prepare to celebrate student success, it’s incredibly important we recognize their teachers as well,” said Corinne Murphy, dean of WKU’s College of Education and Behavioral Sciences in a news release. “Our goal is to ensure we’re showcasing our gratitude and really valuing our teachers and the work that impacts their students’ lives.”

Each award celebrates the individual and significant contributions educators make to the teaching profession. Western Kentucky University recognized the following LaRue County educators based on their specialized solutions in the classroom:

- Secondary (9-12): Chris Thomas, LaRue County High School
- Innovation: Rachel Smith, Hodgenville Elementary School
- Teacher Mentor: Chelsie Walsh, LaRue County Middle School

While normal gatherings still are discouraged by the Centers for Disease Control, leaders from the university’s College of Education and Behavioral Sciences paid surprise visits to each winner at their school where they were presented with a \$200 cash prize and a commemorative plaque.

Additionally, WKU will feature a perpetual plaque in Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame honoring winners for years to come.

—