

Principal, Teacher and Support Staff Member of the Year!

Principal of the Year: Pierrette Peters Francis C. Hammond Middle School



The 2020-21 ACPS Principal of the Year honoree is Francis C. Hammond Middle School Principal Pierrette Peters. Peters is in her sixth year as Principal of Hammond and is known as a student-focused leader who is committed to providing a safe, welcoming and engaging school environment with high expectations for all. Hammond Student Representative Sarah Murphy said, “Ms. Peters is a great role model because she shows everyone how to behave and act in a working environment. She is very respectful to staff, students and families. Ms. Peters looks to empower others and build others’ confidence.”

Teacher of the Year: Vilma Zefran T.C. Williams High School



The 2020-21 ACPS Teacher of the Year is Vilma Zefran, T.C. Williams High School TV/Media Production teacher. Zefran has tirelessly worked to improve and add value to the TV/Media Production program at T.C. Williams since she started it in 1999. The program began with 70 students in a two-year program. Today, the program hosts nearly 100 students in a three-year program. Since the

program’s inception, many of the students have pursued related programs in college and have entered the film and media industry as award-winning professionals. Former student Cheston McGuire recalls, “...after three years under the tutelage of Ms. Zefran, I found a subject matter I was passionate about, a career I was interested in, and a college that — thanks to her advice and guidance — helped me chart a successful career...”

Support Staff Member of the Year: Alex Weinard Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School



Alex Weinard, kindergarten paraprofessional at Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School, is the ACPS 2020-2021 Support Staff Member of the Year.

Weinard has been invaluable in his role, while simultaneously completing his Masters in Teaching from the University of Virginia, Curry School of Education and Human Development. Before ACPS, Weinard had been mentoring and guiding youth through AmeriCorps and 4-H. Claudine Browand, kindergarten instructional assistant, said, “Alex is committed to the whole school. He helps out whenever anyone outside our kindergarten team asks for help. Also, he helped establish our Robotics Club with our Art Teacher Frank Altamirano, last school year. He traveled with the club as they made it to finals last school year. He

has also worked with one of our Physical Education Teachers April Rodgers, to set up a very successful morning run club. He was getting kids moving and exercising before most teachers arrived at school. He is an asset to our school and we are very fortunate to have him on our team.”