



FOUNDATION *for* EXCELLENCE
IN PUBLIC EDUCATION
CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Excellence in Teaching Awards

The *Excellence in Teaching Awards* (previously called *Teacher of Excellence Awards*) have been presented annually since 1985, and are now named in honor and recognition of the following.



Eve Carson:

In her brief lifetime, Eve Marie Carson (1985-2008) created an extraordinary record of academic achievement, leadership, and community service as well as a legacy of friendships with people young and old. A native of Athens, at Clarke Central HS she was both student body president and Class of 2004 Valedictorian. She attended The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and accepted a Morehead-Cain Scholarship. She studied abroad in Havana, Cuba, and did volunteer work in Ecuador and Egypt. She majored in biology and political science and became a North Carolina Fellow in a leadership development program for undergraduates. She also was tapped for Phi Beta Kappa honor society. In February 2007, Carson was elected UNC student body president. At her death in 2008 her parents, Bob and Teresa Carson, asked for donations to be made to the Foundation for Excellence, and the *Friends of Eve Carson Excellence in Teaching Award* has been presented since 2010.





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Joan D. Humphries:

Joan Davis Humphries holds a master's in English and a doctorate in supervision of instruction from the University of Georgia, and a degree in English and social studies from Western Carolina University. She joined the Clarke County School District in 1975, and served in positions including Coordinator of Language Arts and Staff Development, Principal of Alps Rd. Elementary School, and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Assessment. Always an enthusiastic supporter of the Foundation for Excellence and its purposes, she was a part of the committee of district leaders who established the criteria for the original Teacher of Excellence Awards. After her retirement in 1998, she served as Historian for the Foundation until 2006, and was instrumental in establishing the Frusanna S. Booth Chair, the Freida M. Thomas Teacher of Promise Award, and the Kathryn H. Hug Instructional Leadership Award. She is married to Carroll D. Humphries, and the mother of two daughters who are both teachers in metro-Atlanta school districts. The *Joan D. Humphries Excellence in Teaching Award* has been presented since 2010.



Jim and Dorothy Newland:

Jim Newland, retired from banking after 32 years, serves on the financial advisory board for the Foundation for Excellence, and has been involved in community organizations including Covenant Presbyterian Church, the local Olympic organizing committee, the United Way of Northeast Georgia, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Athens, and many more. Dorothy Sams Newland, a past trustee for the Foundation for Excellence, is a life-long Athens resident and a graduate of the Clarke County schools, having attended Barrow Elementary School and Athens High. Her community involvement includes the Athens Community Council on Aging, Covenant Presbyterian, the Clarke County Mentor Program, the Athens Regional Library board, and many more. Their two children attended Clarke County schools, and both Newlands have provided long-term financial support and cheerleading for public schools. The *Newland Family Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award* has been presented since 2010.



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Dr. Ken Sherman:

Born and raised in New York City, Dr. Ken Sherman moved to Athens in 1991, where he met fellow educator Sherrie Gibney. They were married in 1992 and have a daughter, Mollie. Since 1981, Dr. Sherman has taught, at various times, at the middle school, high school, and college level. Dr. Sherman earned a masters degree in English and American Literature from New York University and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Georgia. From 1988-2009, he worked full-time as a school administrator, including seventeen years as the assistant principal (1992-1996) and principal (1996-2009) at Clarke MS in Athens. He has worked with Northeast Georgia Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) as a school improvement specialist and taught part time in the College of Education at the University of Georgia. A biking enthusiast, Dr. Sherman organizes local charity bike rides and events, including the Athens-Savannah Double Century to benefit the Foundation for Excellence. The *Ken Sherman Double Century Excellence in Teaching Award* has been presented since 2011.