



MEDIA RELEASE

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919 N Broad Street • Brooksville, FL 34601

SHE DID IT! Challenger teacher named Florida's Teacher of the Year!

Brooksville - Last night, at the Florida Department of Education's 2025 Teacher of the Year ceremony in Orlando, Jaime Suarez, Challenger K8 math teacher was named Florida's 2025 Teacher of the Year! Jaime was supported by her family, superintendent, district leaders and the Hernando Education staff who were in attendance to hear Jaime's name announced.

"I am deeply humbled to be named the 2025 Florida Teacher of the Year. It is both an honor and a privilege to represent not only this remarkable profession but also the extraordinary teachers who make it so special. I am thrilled to represent Hernando County and the many phenomenal educators and programs that we have here. Meeting the leadership from the Florida Department of Education has been an inspiring experience. Their unwavering passion for advancing student success is truly motivating, and I am excited about the opportunity to collaborate closely with them over the coming year to elevate teachers across the great state of Florida."

For the next year, Jaime will visit schools and school districts across the state, serving as an ambassador for the profession and an inspiration to Florida educators.

"Ms. Suarez radiates her love for learning to everyone around her – students, colleagues, and families. Her lessons build confidence in her students and spark their enthusiasm for math," said Challenger Principal Rosemarie Maiorini. "She never wavers in her belief in their potential to learn, and her students respond by surpassing their limits! I am truly honored to stand alongside this remarkable soul."

"We are thrilled for Jaime. She exemplifies the powerful impact talented educators have on student success. We are proud to share her with the rest of the state as she visits communities throughout Florida," Superintendent Ray Pinder said. "Jaime will be an incredible ambassador, not only for Hernando Schools, but for the profession she loves. We wish her the best of luck and we look forward to having her back soon."