

2026 SDCTM Outstanding Elementary Math Teacher Award

Made possible in part through a generous STEM Ed conference sponsorship from the Center for Advancement of Math and Science Education (CAMSE) at Black Hills State University, the South Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics (SDCTM) is pleased to offer an award to an outstanding teacher of mathematics at the elementary school level. The award winner will receive a plaque and a \$1000 cash award to support their efforts to teach mathematics using equipment/manipulatives or perhaps help to attend a conference or workshop. Eligible teachers are K-6 Elementary teachers, title and special ed, recovery, and coaches that assist in the teaching of elementary mathematics. Preschool teachers in a school setting are also eligible for the award.

Application information is available at <http://www.sdctm.org/>

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1.) A maximum two page, 12 font resume, which includes the following (note resume items evaluated will be those marked with an *)
 - a) Personal information, including name, telephone numbers, email, addresses, etc.
 - b) Beginning with the most recent, list colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
 - c) Beginning with the most recent, list teaching employment history indicating time period and grade level.
 - d*) Beginning with the most recent, list staff development leadership activities or other professional activities.

- 2.) A maximum two-page, 12 font, double spaced, personal essay that includes but is not limited to the following topics:
 - a.) Describe how you have inspired students.
 - b.) Describe innovative teaching techniques/methods used in your classes
 - c.) Describe what types of hands-on manipulatives are used in your class.
 - d.) Describe any professional development, as it pertains to mathematics, that you have been involved in.

3.) Provide 2 letters of recommendation: one from an administrator or colleague, and one from a parent. Recommendations must be dated and contain contact information for the writer. They are limited to one page, double spaced, one-inch margins, and must be in 12 font. It is important that the information be as detailed as possible to adequately evaluate each application/nomination.

The completed resume and recommendations need to be included in one file in either a word or PDF file in the order they are outlined above and emailed to Dan Van Peurse at Dan.VanPeurse@usd.edu .

The packet must be received by December 1, 2025. The recipient for the 2026 CAMSE Outstanding Elementary Teacher Award will be announced at the 2026 SD STEM Ed Conference in Huron SD (hosted by SDCTM and SDSTA). Completed applications will be kept on file for 3 years from the date of original submission. After 3 years, applicants must complete and submit a new application to be considered.