

# First Years of Teaching Support Program

October 11, 2022

Dear Beginning Teacher Support Coordinator,

We are pleased to announce that the First Years of Teaching Support Program (FYTSP) at UNCW's Watson College of Education is continuing its ***Promise of Leadership Award (POL)*** during the 2022-2025 partnership cycle. This award was designed to recognize and support excellent beginning teachers in our partnership school districts! We are currently seeking nominations of individuals in their ***second or third*** year of teaching to become part of a three-year cohort. Award recipients will be nominated by their school systems and selected based on their commitment to teaching diverse students, innovative use of technology in the classroom, and potential for leadership. Teachers who have already shown growth or evidence for potential growth in these areas will be given priority consideration.

The goals of this ongoing initiative are to provide beginning teachers a leadership role that enhances their use of best teaching strategies with diverse student populations, to provide them opportunities to embed technology into their classroom, and to grow as resilient professionals. Furthermore, the initiative aims to provide empowering leadership roles and recognition not typically offered to beginning teachers in an effort to retain them in our partnership districts. Ten teachers will be selected from our PDS partnership school districts.

As members of this unique group, award winners will be supported by Watson College of Education faculty, a UNCW Master Teacher (MT), a MT Faculty Associate, and community partners at different stages of the three-year cohort. Support and programming for POL award recipients will include:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free participation in all BT Conference Days on campus (3 days)</li> <li>Center for Courage and Renewal Retreat on campus (1 day)</li> <li>Professional growth opportunities offered by WCE Assistant Professor Dr. Lynn Sikma and Assistant PDS Director Jenn Hatch Knight focused on building teacher resiliency (2 evenings)</li> <li>Online resilience modules with reflection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free participation in all BT Conference Days on campus (3 days)</li> <li>Pairing with a MT to determine focus and support development of a professional development topic to present at one BT Conference Day (1 meeting)</li> <li>Training and collaboration with Open Way Learning on Authentic Innovation and Learner Centered Education (3 evenings)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free participation in all BT Conference Days on campus as a session leader (panel, small group discussions, etc.) (3 days)</li> <li>Collaboration with a UNCW MT for support in creating a collaborative professional development session (2 meetings)</li> <li>Create a culminating experience/project with all stakeholders: POL, MT, MT Faculty Associate (ongoing)</li> </ul>

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In nominating promising beginning teachers in their second or third year, districts or schools agree to provide support for those teachers chosen as Promise of Leadership Award winners by allowing them to attend all 3 professional development days and additional evening learning sessions with Ms. Knight, Dr. Sikma, and their Master Teacher over the course of the three-year cohort. The registration fee for professional development days and all other programming will be waived for the award winners; however, district support will include substitute pay for the teachers attending the Beginning Teacher Professional Development Days. The Watson College of Education will provide all meals, presentation materials, and registration fees for each award winner.

If your district is interested in participating in this unique opportunity for your beginning teachers in their second or third year of teaching, please submit the attached nomination forms for each nominee by **October 24, 2022**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jenn Hatch Knight, PDS Assistant Director, at [knightjh@uncw.edu](mailto:knightjh@uncw.edu) or 910-962-4246. Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration with the Watson College of Education.

*Jenn Hatch Knight, Assistant Director*  
Professional Development System

*Somer Lewis, Director*  
Professional Development System

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## Beginning Teacher Promise of Leadership Award

### *Nomination Information*

#### General Information

- Teacher nominee must be in their 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year of full-time classroom teaching in a PDS Partnership District in the 2022-2023 school year.
- Teacher nominee must be willing to present during a professional development day at the WCE and participate in a variety of evening learning sessions.
- Nomination packets are due via email (please scan) no later than October 24, 2022, at 5:00 pm. District contacts and school principals will be notified of award recipients on October 31st.

#### Please include in the nomination packet and return by October 24th:

- General Nominee Information sheet (below) signed by principal/designee, BT Support Provider/Coordinator, and the beginning teacher being nominated.
- Recommendation Information sheet filled out by the Mentor/BT Support Provider, or principal/designee (attached).
- Letter/Statement of interest from the beginning teacher (**required for consideration**). The letter should include how this opportunity will benefit their professional growth and support the academic success of their students.

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### *General Nominee Information*

#### **Please Print Information about the Nominee**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

School District \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail *(required)* \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Graduation/Licensure \_\_\_\_\_

Institution(s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Degree or License Areas Currently Held \_\_\_\_\_

Teaching Experience (location/years) \_\_\_\_\_

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Principal Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

BT Support Provider/Coordinator Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher/Nominee Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Recommendation Information

Completed by Beginning Teacher Support Provider/Coordinator **OR** Principal/Designee

***On a Scale of 1(low) to 10(high) please rate the nominee in the following areas:***

\_\_\_\_\_ Commitment to teaching diverse students  
*Please explain your rating*

\_\_\_\_\_ Technology use in the classroom  
*Please explain your rating*

\_\_\_\_\_ Potential for long-term leadership  
*Please explain your rating*

***Please provide any other information that would be valuable to the nomination process. Feel free to attach a typed sheet or handwrite the information in the space provided.***

Please Sign:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please Print:

\_\_\_\_\_