



Aubrey Flowers

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TULSA, Okla. – Council Oak Elementary Principal Aubrey Flowers received the national Milken Educator Award at an all-school assembly this morning. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister and Milken Educator Awards Senior Program Director Greg Gallagher presented the prestigious award to Flowers in a surprise announcement during a school assembly.

Tulsa Public Schools Superintendent Deborah Gist said: "Principal Flowers is an exceptional leader and educator who continues to keep the needs of our students at the center of every decision she makes. We are so proud and thrilled that she is joining the Milken Educator family!"

Flowers has been the principal of Council Oak Elementary School for the last five years. She is known for her leadership in curriculum development and for fostering innovation within her faculty. Flowers regularly works with community partners to bring resources to her school and uses test data and flexible small grouping to increase academic growth among students.

"Aubrey demonstrates unwavering respect for every child in her care," said Hofmeister. "As an innovative leader who inspires and empowers her teachers to meet the individual learning needs of each student, she nurtures a school culture centered on creativity, patience, and growth. We are so proud to have Aubrey represent Oklahoma on the national stage as a Milken Educator."

Flowers is one of only 63 honorees nationwide to receive the Milken Educator Award this year. The award recognizes early to mid-career educators for what they have achieved and for the promise of what they will accomplish. In addition to a \$25,000 cash prize, the honor includes membership in the National Milken Educator Network, a group of more than 2,700 top teachers, principals, and specialists dedicated to strengthening education.

The Milken Educator Awards has been opening minds and shaping futures for more than 30 years. The initiative not only aims to reward great teachers, but to celebrate, elevate, and activate those innovators in the classroom who are guiding America's next generation of leaders. Milken Educators believe, "The future belongs to the educated."

For more information, visit www.MilkenEducatorAwards.org.