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Rock Creek Elementary Principal Dr. Barbara King Named State Semifinalist for Tennessee Principal of the Year

WINCHESTER, Tennessee — April 30, 2026 — The Franklin County School District is proud to announce that Dr. Barbara King, Principal of Rock Creek Elementary, has been named a state semifinalist for the 2026-2027 Tennessee Principal of the Year award.

This honor, awarded by the Tennessee Department of Education, recognizes school leaders who demonstrate exceptional leadership, a deep commitment to excellence, and a significant impact on student achievement. Dr. King is one of a select group of leaders across the state to advance to this stage of the competition.

"The Franklin County School District is fortunate to have Dr. Barbara King as principal of Rock Creek Elementary School," said Dr. Cary Holman, Director of Schools. "Dr. King's commitment, knowledge, and passionate leadership are pivotal characteristics exhibited each day, ensuring our students achieve their potential in an environment conducive to optimal learning. We are FC Strong."

Dr. King's leadership focuses on collaborative success and student-centered growth, translating the district's mission into daily excellence.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to be recognized as a semifinalist," said Dr. Barbara King. "This honor truly reflects the collective dedication of our entire Rock Creek Elementary community; our exceptional educators, staff, and families. I am inspired daily by our students, and I remain steadfast in my commitment to fostering an environment where every one of them has the opportunity to thrive."

As a semifinalist, Dr. King will move forward to the next round of the selection process, which includes a rigorous review of professional accomplishments and interviews. The state finalists will be announced by the Tennessee Department of Education later this year.

The Principal of the Year program highlights the vital role school leaders play in shaping the future of the state. Dr. King's advancement recognizes her visionary leadership, career-long dedication, and ability to drive systemic improvement in Tennessee's public schools.