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VBEA RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

Virginia Beach, VA – The Virginia Business Education Association (VBEA) recognized outstanding Virginia business educators at its annual Summer Conference on July 28, 2016 at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks Fairfax, Virginia.

VBEA Al Roane Middle School Business Teacher of the Year Award was established to recognize the unique contributions of middle school teachers of business and information technology.

The 2016 recipient is **Lindsay Moody**, business and information technology teacher in Grade 8 at Giles High School in Giles County. Since 2014, after switching careers, Mrs. Moody has become a role model and engages her students in real-world activities. She is aware of the middle school student's shorter attention span, need to socialize, and interest in technology, and has created a valuable learning environment for this age group. She teaches the Microsoft Office Programs so students can achieve certification. She earned her Microsoft Office Excel 2013 certification. She is an FBLA Adviser and Volleyball coach. A result of the FBLA activities, she had increased membership and this year three students attended the National Leadership Conference in Charleston, S.C. A colleague describes her this way: "When you walk into Lindsay's classroom you feel welcome and inspired. By looking around the room, you can see that she is an extremely organized professional who models all of the skill sets she shares with her classes. Lindsay is kind and caring with her students. We could not hope for a better person."

VBEA Outstanding New Business and Information Technology Teacher Award is given to encourage new teachers to remain in the profession. Recipients of this award must have made significant contributions toward innovative, unique and novel programs and have shown a professional commitment early in their careers.



Rania Hammad
Outstanding New Business &
Information Technology Teacher

The 2016 recipient, **Rania Hammad**, is currently teaching Business Law, Multimedia and Web Design, Advanced Multimedia, IT Fundamentals, , and Economics and Personal Finance. In addition, she has multiple industry certifications, made professional contributions on curriculum writing committees, is an FBLA chapter Adviser, and active in community service activities such as, March of Dimes and Sight Night.

Her assistant principal says: "Rania is a dynamic teacher and teacher leader. She is organized, detail oriented, dependable and constantly working to improve herself and her students. Rania is a natural leader and an example of a true professional. She always treats her students and colleagues with respect. Rania is a tremendous asset to the Osbourn High School community."

The **Walter L. Shell Business Teacher of the Year Award** honors an outstanding business and information technology teacher in Virginia who exemplifies excellence in teaching.



Tabitha Young
Walter L. Shell Business
Teacher of the Year

The 2016 recipient is **Tabitha Young**. This year's recipient has been teaching business education for ten years to ninth through twelfth graders at Giles High School and has devoted her time and efforts to be a loyal advocate for the improvement of the educational system of Giles County. She serves as an FBLA chapter adviser, FBLA New River regional adviser, VBEA representative for New River Region, and an adjunct faculty member of Concord University. She has achieved a numerous industry certifications, such as Internet Webmaster in Site Development, Microsoft Office Specialist in Word 2010, IC3 Digital Literacy, and WISE Financial Literacy. In addition, she is currently in the Education Specialist program majoring in Career and Technical Education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Students have this say about her: "Ms. Young has been one of the biggest influences in my high school years. She is dependable, helpful, respectful, and one of the nicest person I have ever met. She cares about my feelings and I can trust her. She is able to break down any information that I don't understand and thoroughly explain it."

Colleagues have this to say about her:

"Tabitha has a wonderful rapport with people of all ages, especially her students. Her ability to connect with teenagers and her talent at teaching concepts and advanced topics are truly superior. Tabitha is self-motivated and dependable. She stays abreast of current trends in business education. She is an enthusiastic business educator."