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TYLER BARTLETT: 2015 STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

CHEYENNE - Tyler Bartlett of Newcastle receives the 2015 Wyoming Teacher of the Year award, as announced by Wyoming State Superintendent Cindy Hill, Wednesday Sept. 25.

Mr. Bartlett is a math teacher at Newcastle Middle School and has been teaching for six years. "From way back when I was young I knew I wanted to be a teacher," Bartlett said. "I couldn't be happier."

The State Teacher of the Year receives a \$5000 award and will represent Wyoming nationally.

"There's a lot that goes into being a successful teacher. Sometimes we focus too much on teaching and not enough on learning. I think that the real bottom line is that students have to be learning," Bartlett said.

"It is clear to me that Mr. Bartlett values authentic student engagement and fosters strong healthy student relationships," Superintendent Hill said. "He strives to make learning accessible both within and beyond his classroom creating real-world experiences."

When asked what advice he would give to a new teacher, he answered, "The biggest focus in my class is getting the students involved, getting them active, getting them engaged in their own learning. So for any new teacher starting out, if they're looking for something to focus on, I'd focus on engaging your students."

"I feel really fortunate to get this award. I definitely feel like it has more to do with the people I work with than with just me. I think I'm very blessed to work with the people I do and that's the reason this award came to be," Bartlett said.

"Congratulations, Mr. Bartlett, you make Wyoming proud," Hill said. "Thank you for your great service to your students, your community, and our state."