



# Wyoming Department of Education

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## PRESS Release

### Local Teacher of the Year, Gerald George, Receives Accolades

Big Horn County School District #1 teacher, Gerald George, received the district Teacher of the Year award for 2015, according to Superintendent of Public Instruction Cindy Hill. George, a teacher for 22 years, serves as a social studies teacher at Burlington Middle and High School.

“I teach a lot more than history,” George says. “An average graduate of our high school will have read 22 books in my classes. I help students discover the joy of reading and the satisfaction of making connections.”

Speaking about the teaching profession, George comments, “I have found teaching to be an ever-changing, dynamic experience. Even my students have changed over the years. However, they still need adults who care about them and try to help them move forward in life. This is what I am all about and what I find so fulfilling.”

Accountability is a current buzz word in educational circles. George addresses this topic: “I believe accountability in the teaching profession is problematic. No one assessment is going to do the job; there are too many variables involved. I think teachers ought to be accountable to their students first. Do the teachers adequately serve their needs? They need to be accountable to parents second; we often spend more time with their children than they do. We owe it to parents to do well. Thirdly, we ought to be accountable to our school administration.”

George, who will receive a crystal apple award from the Wyoming Department of Education, says, “Students are first and foremost human beings. Educational systems should never lose sight of this.”