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FROM: Brian J. Benigni
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DATE: April 3, 2019

RE: Berlin High School Teacher Honored as 2019 Hall of Famer



THE NATIONAL TEACHERS
Hall of Fame
Preserving a Heritage . . . Building a Legacy

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Emporia, KS, -- Excitement was in the air at Berlin High School in Connecticut on Tuesday afternoon, April 2nd, as the staff gathered for a monthly faculty meeting, ignited by an official announcement that one of Berlin Public Schools' distinguished career teachers will receive yet another award...induction into The National Teachers Hall of Fame. Dr. David Bosso, Social Studies teacher at Berlin High, attended there as a student and has been on the faculty since 1998, after having taught for one year at Holy Cross School, for a total of 21 years in K through 12 classrooms. Christopher Poulos, who teaches at Joel Barlow High School in Redding, nominated Dr. Bosso for the recognition and served as the Hall of Fame representative to

announce Bosso's induction news at the surprise event. Family members, friends, and colleagues in attendance paid tribute to the newest member of the Hall of Fame.

The National Teachers Hall of Fame, located in Emporia, Kansas, will be inducting the Class of 2019 on June 21st when the five recognized teachers will meet in Emporia for a week of professional development and a celebration of teaching. Bosso will meet his four other "classmates" in May when the National Education Association will honor them at a special meeting with the Executive Board at their headquarters in Washington, DC. An appearance on National Public Radio and meetings with political and government officials will take place also. Surprise announcements have been made over the past two weeks in Nevada, Kansas, Florida, and New York in addition to this final one in Connecticut. The surprise announcements in the teachers' schools or districts allow everyone to be a part of the celebration and shine the spotlight on these five outstanding career teachers.

The teachers selected must have a minimum of twenty years of full-time teaching in preK-12 classrooms and have submitted a rigorous nomination packet, recommendation letters, and video. A national selection committee, with representatives from education organizations and corporate partners, met to select the inductees in late February. The five inductees for this year have a combined total of 132 years of teaching experience.

Bosso was nominated by his friend and fellow State Teacher of the Year, Poulos, so it was meaningful that the announcement came from the nominator. In his nomination letter, Poulos wrote: "I have known David since 2011 and can attest to his commitment to elevating the teaching profession and improving student outcomes. David's various leadership roles as a State Teacher of the Year evidence his significant impact."

George Synnott, his retired principal, wrote: "Dave is an educator who successfully demonstrates an effective balance between the science of teaching and the art of teaching. He is a teacher who is held in the highest esteem by both his colleagues and his students."

A former student, Katie Amenta, is now a teaching colleague of Bosso, and she wrote of his influence that continues today: "Time and again, Dr. Bosso is noted as my source of inspiration. Over the years, I've had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Bosso, both as a mentor and now colleague at Berlin High. His teaching never stops."

Bosso is a member of NEA, Connecticut Education Association, National Network of State Teachers of the Year, National Council for the Social Studies, and served as the 2012 Connecticut State Teacher of the Year. He was a Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes Fellow in 2014 and has traveled globally through Fulbright and US Department of State Fellowships.

Bosso is a member of the 28th class of NTHF inductees, which, when added in June, will bring the total induction count to 140. He is the fourth teacher from Connecticut inducted, joining Anna Alfiero (the inaugural Class of 1992); Dr. Gerard Brooker (Class of 1998), and the late Robert Coleman (Class of 1994).

BJB/db