PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, May 11, 2017 Submitted by Lesia Goodman, Director of Human Resources Ashe County Schools

Amanda Hipp, Assistant Principal at Ashe High, is named Support Staff/Supervisory 2017 Employee of the Year for Ashe County Schools

Congratulation to Amanda Hipp!!! Not only is she our first winner of the Support Staff/Supervisory Employee of the Year, but she is fantastic at her job! She is passionate about the students at Ashe High and providing support to the entire Ashe High school community. In her portfolio entry she writes that she is one of the luckiest people because she loves her job. She also states that being an assistant principal at the high school allows me to help students in so many different ways. I believe building relationships with the students I the most vital part of my job."

Mrs. Hipp was surprised with the announcement on Thursday. Students, staff, central services administrators, Phyllis Yates, Superintendent and Polly Jones, Ashe County School Board of Education were there to celebrate!

Mrs. Hipp has been employed by Ashe County Schools since August, 2001. Hipp began her career as an exceptional children's teacher at Blue Ridge Elementary. She later was promoted to assistant principal at Ashe High at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year.

"Amanda is student centered and goes out of her way to make students feel welcomed and comfortable in the school environment," stated Joallen Lowder, CTE Director. Mrs. Hipp shared, "I have so many more opportunities to meaningfully interact with students and their families outside of school because of the relationships I have built with them at school."

This is a new recognition for our school system. Ashe County Schools wants to promote the profession of support service and supervisory personnel by recognizing, rewarding, and supporting the district's outstanding employees that go above and beyond in their area of expertise. This recognition honors employees who demonstrate excellence in work performance and leadership and commitment to our school system and students.

Much like the Teacher of the Year, the nominees are selected by each school's teachers. The nominees submitted a portfolio and completed a face-to-face interview. Nominees for the Support Staff/Supervisory Employee of the Year for the 2017-2018 school year were:

Amanda Hipp, Assistant Principal at Ashe County High School; Tim Armentrout, Technology Technician at Ashe County Middle; Laura Bowers, Media Specialist at Westwood Elementary, Regan Perry, School Nurse at Mountain View Elementary and Tammy Craine, School Nurse at Blue Ridge Elementary.