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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Carson City School District Honors Employee and Educator of the Year**

**CARSON CITY, Nev. (April 26, 2017)** — Tedra “Teddy” Cook, 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Carson Middle School, was honored last night as the Carson City School District’s Educator of the Year. Additionally, Bridget Gordon, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Solutions Program coordinator at Carson High School, was recognized as the Classified Employee of the Year for the district.

Cook and Gordon were selected from 25 candidates including 11 teachers and 14 classified employees who were selected from peers and administrators from various sites and schools within the district. Each candidate endured a series of strenuous interview questions from a panel of comprehensive judges. Upon conclusion of those interviews, the panel then made the difficult decision of selecting “one” classified employee of the year and “one” educator of the year.

Other Classified Employees and Educators of the Year candidates recognized and honored last night include Kelly Anderson, Donald Bland, Christina Bourne, Tanisha Chacon, Teresa Cox, Jose “Rudy” DeLeon, Denise DeMarzo, Jessica Greener, Tara Hornemann, Janet Hughes, Alisa Kuniya, Rhiannon Moffat, Phillip Molleson, Toni Nielsen, Carol “Susie” Owens, Robert Perry, Luis Rizo, Rosanna Robertson, Wayne Schlachta, Shawn Schneider, Heather Stagliano, Miriam Torres and Mary Wertjes.

**Mrs. Cook** has been teaching at Carson Middle School since 2004. She is a graduate of Carson High School and spent more than 20 years in the retail industry before fulfilling a long-time dream of becoming a teacher. She earned a Bachelor’s from the University of Nevada Reno and later earned a Master’s in Teaching English as a Second or Other Language (TESOL) from Grand Canyon University. She is also Google 1 Certified, working on her Level 2 certification with ambitions to become a Google Trainer. She has hosted professional development trainings for online grading programs as well as a hyperdocs training, which is a collaborative digital lesson that allows for student exploration, choice and creativity. Mrs. Cook is also an Adjunct Professor at Sierra Nevada College.

In addition to last night’s award, as the District Educator of the Year, Mrs. Cook will have the opportunity to compete for Nevada Teacher of the Year.

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For more than 4 years, **Mrs. Gordon** has worked as the coordinator for the Carson High School Solutions Program, an after-school, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grant site. The program serves an average of 120 students a day in out-of-school time classrooms including credit recovery, mandatory tutoring for freshmen/sophomores struggling to pass courses, special education tutoring, English Language Learning support, science and math tutoring and enrichment clubs. She previously taught special and regular education at Fremont Elementary. Gordon earned a Bachelors from the University of Phoenix and is more than halfway through her Master's in School Counseling. She also participates in the school's judicial board and the Student Advocates for Gender Expansivity (SAGE) Club and Scholarship and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) committees.

#### ABOUT CCSD

Located in Nevada's capital, CCSD offers public education to approximately 7,600 students in Carson City. The district includes 6 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 alternative high school and 1 comprehensive high school. CCSD boasts many successes including impressive graduation rates, strict safety measures, programs for gifted students and advanced-placement classes, among several others. In a joint venture with Western Nevada College, the CCSD Jump Start College program allows students to complete their senior year of high school and freshman year of college simultaneously.

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