

NEWS RELEASE

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Gwinnett teacher wins award for encouraging girls to pursue computer science education

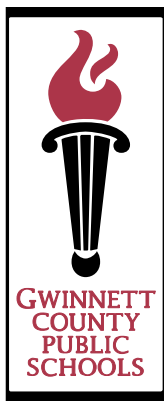
Leah dee Kilgore, a Career and Technical Education teacher at **Berkmar High School**, is the **2018 National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) Aspirations in Computing Georgia Affiliate Educator Award** winner. The Educator Award is conferred upon educators that have demonstrated a commitment to encouraging young women's aspirations in computing.

Kilgore will receive a \$250 cash award, up to \$750 of expense reimbursement for computing-related professional development activities, and a bag of NCWIT and sponsor branded items.

Kilgore says winning the award was a surprise. She adds, "I never expected to win this honor. I am proud to represent Berkmar High School and Gwinnett County Public Schools. This award holds special meaning for me as I truly believe that more women should be in this field."

As the 2018 winner of the Educator Award, Kilgore has been invited to the Georgia Affiliate Award Banquet on Friday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. She also will receive two engraved commemorative trophies: one for herself, and one for Berkmar High.

Kilgore says she hopes the award will inspire others. "It is important for girls to understand that just because something is hard, it doesn't mean they are failing. Not getting something immediately is when true learning begins to take place. They must believe in themselves," Kilgore said.



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