



TEXAS CLASSROOM TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008

CONTACT:  
Kristina Tirloni, (512) 477-9415

## **TCTA recognizes current, former Lubbock educators for statewide awards**

**AUSTIN** – Today, the Texas Classroom Teachers Association (TCTA) formally announced a number of current and former Lubbock educators as statewide award recipients. School Board Trustee Vernita Woods-Holmes was named the 2007-08 Trustee of the Year, given for outstanding service to education, students and the community; Lubbock ISD science coordinator Kim Perry was named the 2007-08 Administrator of the Year in the central office category, given to honor exemplary education leaders; and longtime music teacher Deborah Settler was named the 2007-08 TCTA Retiree of the Year, given to honor a recently retired member who has given outstanding service to education, students, the community and the Association during his/her career. All were selected based on nominations submitted by the Lubbock CTA, a local affiliate of the statewide TCTA.

Founded in 1927, TCTA is an association for Texas teaching professionals and serves 50,000 members across the state.

In nominating Woods-Holmes, the Lubbock CTA noted that “her dedication to education and the community has influenced countless numbers of students, teachers and administrators, as well as community members.”

Woods-Holmes spent several years as an elementary teacher, served as an elementary assistant principal and principal for Lubbock ISD, and was elected to the Lubbock ISD School Board in 2000. She currently serves as the board’s secretary.

**(more)**

**(TCTA news release, continued)**

Woods-Holmes received her Bachelor of Arts degree at Huston-Tillotson College and her Master of Education degree at Texas Tech University. She has received the Lubbock CTA's Administrator of the Year and School Board Member of the Year awards, the Rita Harmon Volunteer of the Year Award, and has been named African American Hero of Lubbock.

Having worked in education since 1993, Kim Perry was named Lubbock ISD science coordinator in 2003. She received her Bachelor of Science, Master and Doctorate in Education degrees at Texas Tech University.

In nominating Perry for Administrator of the Year, the Lubbock CTA wrote, "She is truly dedicated to the science education of students in the Lubbock district, as well as providing teachers with the resources needed to achieve the district's exemplary goals."

Judges for the TCTA awards praised Perry, specifically noting "her hands-on approach" and that "she's not afraid to help out in the field" as reasons for naming her Administrator of the Year.

Retiree of the Year Deborah Settler taught in the Lubbock ISD for nearly 30 years, retiring from Ramirez Elementary School in 2007. She received her Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Science degrees at Texas Tech University.

She served on the TCTA's State Board of Directors, and the association's Communications/Public Relations and Governance committees. At the local level, Settler served as president, and chaired various committees including Membership and Legislative.

**(more)**

**(TCTA news release, continued)**

In its nomination letter the Lubbock CTA wrote, “She was a staunch recruiter for our association and advocate for the rights of teachers. To this day, she encourages educators to make sure they are members of a professional association and never fails to mention TCTA as the informed choice to make.”

“For several years, Settler achieved 100 percent membership in her building; making it a reason I chose her as Retiree of the Year,” noted one TCTA judge.

TCTA will honor award winners in March in Houston, during the association's annual convention. Educators from across the state will participate in professional development seminars, develop association policy positions, and elect TCTA leaders for statewide and district positions.

In addition to these winners, Haley Burks with KJTV, FOX 34, was named a winner of TCTA’s Silver Apple media award in the broadcast category. Silver Apple awards are given for journalistic excellence in the coverage of education issues.

**-30-**

**NOTE TO NEWS DIRECTORS/EDITORS: Lubbock CTA President Donna Corbin is available for additional information or interview requests. Her contact number is (806) 239-0410.**