## Hurricane Elementary STEM Specialist Receives Excellence in Agriculture Award

We would like to invite you to attend the Washington County School District School Board meeting on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the Washington County School District Office located at 121 West Tabernacle Street in St. George, Utah. The meeting starts at 4:00 pm and Utah Agriculture in the Classroom will be presenting the 2024 Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award to Karen Webb at 4:15 pm.

The Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award is given to one Utah teacher currently engaged in classroom instruction at the Pre-Kindergarten through 12th-grade levels. This award recognizes a teacher for their integrated efforts to teach students about the importance of agriculture. The teacher selected receives \$500 for their classroom and up to \$1,500 of their related expenses paid to attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City, June 24-27, 2024. The state-winning application will also be submitted for the National Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award.

This year's award recipient, Karen Webb, is the K-5 STEM Specialist at Hurricane Elementary. Webb integrates many innovative and hands-on engineering activities to teach STEM through an agricultural lens. Webb's kindergarteners and first graders code and program robots called "Bee-Bots" to mimic pollination. Webb has the unique opportunity to teach every student from kindergarten through fifth grade. Her passion for teaching agriculture in a STEM class is evident in her daily integration of agricultural engineering opportunities. Consequently, Webb's students have an accurate knowledge of – and appreciation for – the science, technology, engineering, and math involved in agriculture. Webb is also the recipient of the 2023 STEM Elementary Science Teacher of the Year (Southern Utah); 2022 Governor's Office Energy in Science Award Winner, 2017-2018 Riverview PTA Teacher of the Year, and a grant recipient for many other awards.

If you have any questions please reach out to me.

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