



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Lydia Burcham Named Surry County Schools 2021-2022 Beginning Teacher of the Year**

**Dobson, NC** — Lydia Burcham, first-year agriscience teacher at Surry Central High School was named the 2021-2022 Surry County Schools Beginning Teacher of the Year today in a virtual called faculty meeting. Burcham was surrounded virtually by her principals, colleagues, and family members this afternoon as Superintendent, Dr. Travis L. Reeves, made the announcement. Members of the Surry County Board of Education, including the Chairperson, Dr. Terri E. Mosley, and Mrs. Mamie M. Sutphin were on the virtual meeting to offer congratulations and support, along with other district administrators and members of the Beginning Teacher of the Year Selection Committee.

Miss Burcham graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Education and a minor in Poultry Science from NC State University. “Miss Burcham has breathed new life into the agriculture program at Surry Central with her enthusiasm and passion for teaching students about agriculture, ideas for expansion, and her devotion to providing new opportunities for Surry Central students,” shared Principal Misti Holloway. “As a result of her engagement with students, Surry Central’s FFA students have earned a 1st place finish in a statewide virtual poultry judging competition and a 6th place finish in the state (1st place in our Northwest Region) in a horse judging competition.”

Superintendent Reeves shared, “Miss Burcham has a positive rapport with her students by engaging students with hands-on learning experiences through labs, facilitating learning in the poultry animal science lab, and through local and statewide agricultural competitions. I am extremely proud to announce her as the 2021-2022 Beginning Teacher of the Year.”

Burcham will go on to participate in the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) Beginning Teacher of the Year Award. NCCAT designed the award to honor and retain excellent beginning teachers who are the future of education in North Carolina.

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