



from

## Anne Arundel County Public Schools

Kevin M. Maxwell, Ph.D., *Superintendent of Schools*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ANNAPOLIS HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER WINS PRESTIGIOUS \$25,000 EDUCATION AWARD**

Kimberly Jakovics, the social studies department chairman at Annapolis High School, came to work excited to start the week with an assembly celebrating the school's recent accomplishment of making Adequate Yearly Progress for the second year in a row. Joining Superintendent of Schools Kevin M. Maxwell and members of the Board of Education, state schools superintendent Nancy S. Grasmick and Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates Michael Busch led a celebration to honor the school's nearly 1,700 students, faculty, parents, and community members.

"I thought it was great that so many important people from the state were coming here to congratulate the students and staff," Jakovics said. "We've worked really hard and the kids deserve it."

Unbeknownst to the 12-year teaching veteran, there were actually two reasons to celebrate. To her surprise, Jakovics received a \$25,000 check and a National Educator Award from Michael Milken, co-founder of the Milken Family Foundation, who traveled from California to personally deliver the news.

With the win, she becomes only the sixth teacher in history from AACPS to win a prestigious Milken Award and one of approximately 50 recipients of the award nationwide this year.

According to Annapolis High School Principal Don Lilley, it is clear why Jakovics would be selected for the award.

"Since Kim arrived to Annapolis High School in 2004, she has committed herself to not only making an impact in the classroom, but in our entire school

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community,” said Lilley. “She is a humble and giving person who arrived at our school when we were going through some of our toughest times. She, as the rest our staff, has persevered because we care about our students first. She is most deserving of this award and is a great example of all the people who work to make this school great.”

In addition to overseeing the school’s social studies department, Jakovics donates her time after hours to tutor, mentor, and teach young people at local community centers. She started the Model UN Club at the school, volunteers at the Panther Café, and has even spent her own money to make sure that some of the school’s less fortunate students have clothing.

The Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards program provides public recognition and financial rewards to elementary and secondary schoolteachers, principals, and other education professionals who are furthering excellence in education. By honoring outstanding educators, the program strives to attract, develop, motivate, and retain talented people to the challenge and adventure of teaching.

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