Teacher honored

MMS teacher first W.Va. educator to receive national scholarship award

Mountaineer Montessori School teacher Alasha Al-Qudwah has been awarded a scholarship from the American Montessori Society Joanne P. Hammes Scholarship Fund.

Al-Qudwah is one of a select group of educators nationwide, and the first in West Virginia, to be honored by the nation's foremost Montessori organization with a scholarship toward specialized training.

Al-Qudwah is pursuing Upper Elementary II certification at the Montessori Elementary Teacher Training Collaborative in Waltham, Massachusetts. As part of the intensive, two-year program, she will spend six weeks this summer, as well as fall and spring sessions, training with educators from across the country and around the world at the METTC campus outside of Boston.

This fall will mark Al-Qudwah's sixth year in Montessori education. She previously served in various administrative and arts capacities as well as an elementary classroom assistant.

Starting in August, she will lead one of the two Upper Elementary classrooms at Mountaineer Montessori, serving students in fourth through sixth grades.

Al-Qudwah holds bachelor's degrees from Ohio University and West Virginia State University and is trained in the

"We congratulate Alasha on this well-deserved honor, which recognizes her dedication to Montessori education, commitment to our students and highest standards of professional excellence. During her time at our school, Alasha has introduced wonderful new opportunities for our students."

Jennifer Carriger, director at Mountaineer Montessori School