

PRESS RELEASE



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FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES 2026-2027 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Farmington Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools Jess Giannini are proud to announce the 2026–2027 Teacher of the Year for Farmington Public Schools (FPS). Louise Carrozza, an exemplary music educator, teacher leader, and director of Farmington High School’s choral program, has been named Farmington’s Teacher of the Year.

Carrozza has been a dedicated member of the Farmington Public Schools community for 10 years, inspiring students through her passion for music and her commitment to developing well-rounded, confident, and engaged citizens. Through her work in the classroom and as

director of the FHS choral program, she demonstrates the powerful role music education plays in helping students develop discipline, perseverance, creativity, collaboration, and self-expression.

Louise models the core values of Farmington Public Schools through her high expectations, thoughtful leadership, and dedication to her students. She creates opportunities for students to grow not only as musicians, but also as leaders, collaborators, and compassionate members of their community. Her influence extends beyond the classroom, helping students develop the skills, confidence, and sense of purpose they need to take on the world beyond high school.

Superintendent Giannini states, *“Louise Carrozza exemplifies what it means to be an outstanding educator. She understands that music education is about so much more than developing musical ability; it is an opportunity to teach students discipline, collaboration, confidence, and perseverance while helping them discover their own voices. Louise brings high expectations, creativity, and genuine care to everything she does, and her leadership extends well beyond her classroom. She is helping our students become well-rounded citizens who are prepared to contribute, lead, and make a difference in the world.”*

Board of Education Chair Andrea Sobinski commented, *“Louise Carrozza has made a lasting impact on generations of Farmington students through her passion for music, her commitment to excellence, and the relationships she builds with her students and colleagues. She represents the very best of what we hope for in a teacher—someone who challenges students to grow, celebrates their accomplishments, and gives them the confidence to believe in themselves. The Board of Education is proud to recognize Louise as our Teacher of the Year and to celebrate the meaningful contribution she makes to our students and our entire school community.”*

K–12 Music Department Leader Frank Quinn added, *“Louise Carrozza embodies the core values of Farmington Public Schools through her commitment to student voice, equity, collaboration, and lifelong learning. She creates an environment where every student has the opportunity to be seen, valued, and successful, while challenging them to take ownership of their learning and growth. Louise’s influence extends far beyond the music classroom. Through her leadership, mentorship, and dedication to the Vision of the Global Citizen, she empowers students to become confident, purposeful, and engaged citizens. She is an innovative and empathetic educator who consistently goes above and beyond for her students and her profession, and she is exceptionally deserving of being named Teacher of the Year.”*

Upon being named Teacher of the Year, Louise Carrozza commented, *“I am humbled and honored to receive this recognition in a career I care about so deeply. I would not be here today without the support and inspiration of so many colleagues over the past decade. As an ensemble director, the heart of my work relies on the spirit of collaboration, a standard I have experienced daily across our entire educational community. Farmington teachers are remarkably generous in sharing their resources, ideas, and time. I have been fortunate to partner with faculty and staff across the district, including music and classroom teachers, counselors, custodial staff, administrators, and community partners. Farmington educators are consistently patient, empathetic, and dedicated to supporting our students. Beyond that, many of these same colleagues have become some of my closest friends. Everything we do is driven by the goal of sending our students across the graduation stage ready to take on the world. It truly takes a*

village, and I am deeply grateful to be part of ours. Thank you to everyone who has inspired my journey; I hope to make you proud as we continue this work side by side."

Brief Bio:

Louise Carrozza began her teaching career at Farmington High School ten years ago, joining as full-time Choral Director after completing her secondary student teaching experience there. At FHS, she directs five choral ensembles, teaches Guitar I & II, and serves as Music Director and Pit Orchestra Conductor for the Farmington Drama musical productions. Beyond the classroom, Louise advises student organizations including the Generations Club and the Asian American Student Union. She has contributed to numerous committees such as the Capstone Steering Committee, the NEASC Accreditation Committee, and the National Honor Society Selection Committee.

A dedicated leader in music education, Louise recently completed three years as Chair of the CMEA Northern Region High School Mixed Choir and served as the Treble Choir Repertoire & Resources Chair for the CT Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). She frequently presents at state and regional conferences for both ACDA and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). She has recently been called upon to conduct middle school honor choirs in Connecticut and New York. During the summer, she tours Europe as a Choral Director with American Music Abroad and co-teaches the Musical Theater workshop at the YPI summer arts camp.

Louise holds a B.S. in Music Education from Western Connecticut State University (2016) and an M.A. in Music and Music Education from Teachers College, Columbia University (2022). She is committed to delivering holistic, culturally responsive pedagogy through choral music that resonates with every student.

Louise lives in Meriden with her husband, Dave, who is a high school band director, and their dog, Koda. In their free time, they enjoy taking Koda on long walks and playing music with friends.