

Celebrate



Jennifer Baney *Christa McAuliffe* *Sabbatical*

The 30th Annual New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards recognize New Hampshire schools and individuals who meet high standards of excellence. The criteria used in selecting outstanding individuals to be honored are determined by their sponsoring organizations.

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About

The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation awards one New Hampshire teacher a year-long sabbatical in honor of Christa McAuliffe to pursue a project of his or her professional dreams. Jennifer Baney of Bedford High School was chosen in recognition of her innovative proposal aimed at enhancing student motivation, engagement, and learning in STEM subjects. Jennifer's project involves the creation of downloadable tabletop "escape room" games tailored for classroom use. These games are designed to cultivate essential skills such as collaboration, problem solving, and critical thinking, which are crucial not only in academic settings but also in the workforce. Her vision extends to making these educational tools widely accessible; she plans to provide these games along with supplemental resources for teachers free of charge to all schools in New Hampshire. Jennifer aims to spark a greater interest in STEM fields and equip students with the skills necessary for future success. Her approach reflects the spirit of innovation and education championed by Christa McAuliffe.