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## **EMILY KENNEDY, ALPHARETTA HIGH SCHOOL'S YOUNGEST MATH TEACHER AND KNOWLES SCIENCE TEACHING FOUNDATION FELLOW, RECEIVES SCHOOL'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Moorestown, NJ, March 2, 2009 — Emily Kennedy, mathematics teacher at Alpharetta High School in Alpharetta, Georgia, and Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) Teaching Fellow, was named her school's 2008 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Kennedy, the youngest teacher in her school's math department, earned the award partly for helping integrate the new Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) into the curriculum.

Ms. Kennedy was awarded the KSTF Fellowship in 2005. She earned her teaching certificate from the University of Georgia in 2006 and began teaching at Alpharetta High School in fall 2006. As part of the KSTF-sponsored summer professional development course, she gathered materials and researched methods to ensure a smooth transition to GPS for her class and the school's entire mathematics department. Ms. Kennedy, who is one of sixteen teachers in the math department, has also taken on the role of Alpharetta High School's Math Team Coach. She was recently named co-chair of the mathematics department

"I felt comfortable spearheading the rollout of GPS mainly because of the information and ongoing support I have received during KSTF meetings," said Ms. Kennedy. "The Foundation helped me feel that I had something truly unique to contribute to the profession."

"KSTF's Fellowship is focused on introducing new teachers to a variety of resources, curriculum materials, research and experts in the field to help develop strong teaching skills," said Dr. Angelo Collins, KSTF's Executive Director. "This training enables outstanding teachers like Emily to act as leaders in science and mathematics education."

Teachers at Alpharetta High School must either first be named Teacher of the Month or be nominated by a fellow teacher before becoming a candidate for Teacher of the Year. A panel, which includes one administrator, two former Teachers of the Year and three parents, observes and interviews five finalists before selecting the winner.

### **About KSTF**

The Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) was established by Janet H. and C. Harry Knowles in 1999 to strengthen the quality of science and mathematics teaching in United States high schools. The Foundation's signature program, the KSTF Teaching Fellowships, awards exceptional young men and women with a five-year fellowship valued at up to \$150,000 as they embark on careers teaching high school science and mathematics. KSTF's other programs include the Research Fellowships for doctoral level researchers and a biennial Knowles Conference series. For more information visit [www.kstf.org](http://www.kstf.org)