

# Austin High's Kelly Wroblewski wins Phi Beta Kappa Alumni award

By Alana Moehring Mallard

Kelly Wroblewski of Austin High has won the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin's Teaching Excellence Award. With the award comes a \$2,500 cash prize for Wroblewski and a \$500 cash prize for Austin High. Wroblewski was nominated by Austin High principal Amy Taylor.

Wroblewski was surprised in her pre-calculus class one day last week by Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association members William Schleuse, Mary Diehl, Connie Hicks, Joyce Statz, and Pam Autrey who made the announcement of her award. Mayor Steve Adler will officially present the award and cash prize to Wroblewski on Nov. 1, at the fall meeting of Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association.

Wroblewski has taught at Austin High since 2006, where she teaches pre-calculus, Academy for Global Studies capstone, and is an academy instructional coach. A colleague described her as an excellent teacher and "an all-around problem solver on the campus."

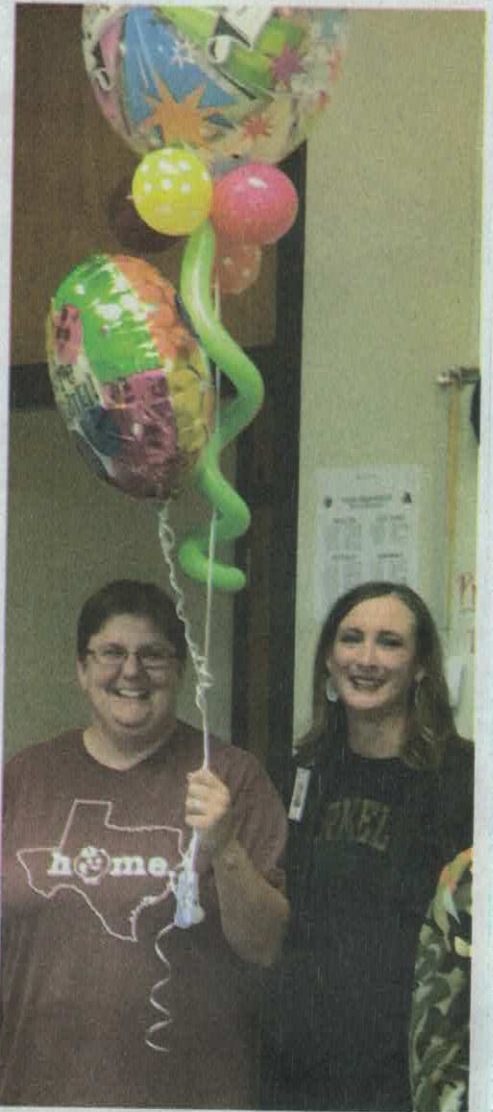
Austin High principal Amy Taylor said in her nomination letter of Wroblewski that she "has earned the reputation of caring deeply about the learning and

success of each of her students. Her performance as a math teacher, Senior Capstone leader, Academy for Global Studies team member, and academies instructional coach showcases her deep commitment to the field of education."

Other finalists for this year's Teaching Excellent Award were Shari Blevins of Austin's Bowie High School, Kirstin Geiger-Aguilar of Cedar Park High School, Deana Seidel of Smithville High School, and Catherine Stoughton of San Marcos High School.

The Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Teaching Excellence Award is in its second year, and the association has for many years awarded four annual \$2,500 scholarships in the Austin area: three to college-bound high school seniors and one to a college undergraduate.

Since its founding in 1776, the Phi Beta Kappa national academic honor society has recognized and celebrated excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and has advocated for the value of education in the liberal arts and sciences. Its Texas Alpha Chapter at UT Austin and the area Alumni Association were established in 1915 and 2001, respectively.



Kelly Wroblewski, Amy Taylor

PHOTOS BY ALANA MOEHRING MALLARD



Kelly Wroblewski, William Schleuse, Pam Autry, Mary Diehl