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For Immediate Release

Utah State Board of Education Mourns the Loss of 2027 Utah Teacher of the Year Talía Casares

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) is deeply saddened by the sudden and unexpected passing of Talía Casares, who was honored earlier this month as the 2027 Utah Teacher of the Year.

"Talía was an extraordinary educator whose warmth, passion, and devotion left an indelible mark on her students, her school, and our entire state," said Dr. Molly Hart, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. "On behalf of the Utah State Board of Education, I extend my deepest condolences to Talía's family, her students, her colleagues at Moroni Elementary, and the North Sanpete community. When Talía was named Utah Teacher of the Year just two weeks ago, we celebrated her exceptional ability to connect language, STEM, and literacy in ways that inspired every child who entered her classroom. To lose someone of her vision, kindness, and heart so suddenly is a profound tragedy for all of our education community."

Mrs. Casares, a sixth-grade Spanish Dual Language Immersion teacher at Moroni Elementary in the North Sanpete School District, brought joy, innovation, and unwavering belief to her students every day.

For specific inquiries regarding local school support services, district statements, media logistics, or interview requests, please direct your questions directly to the North Sanpete School District.

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