

Karen Gill among the best

A physics teacher at Henry Clay High School has been named one of three semifinalists for the 2009 High School Teacher of the Year Award.

“Every child deserves the opportunity to develop the skills and abilities necessary to fulfill their highest potential,” said Karen Gill, who is in her 19th year of teaching. “Every child is entitled to dream big, and their education should provide them with a solid foundation of abilities upon which to build those dreams.”

Outside of school, Gill is involved with the Lexington Partnership for Workforce Development, the Engineering Pathway, Explorium of Lexington, Newton’s Attic, Habitat for Humanity and the Governor’s Educator Work Group.

Gill was first named one of 24 educators chosen as 2009 Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Award winners last month. They were chosen based on their scores from the first round of judging, which was conducted by a blue-ribbon panel of veteran educators in mid-August. Applications included information on nominees’ teaching philosophies, teaching experiences, community involvement and letters of recommendation.

Classroom visits and personal interviews with the nine semifinalists will result in the selection of the Elementary School, Middle School and High School Teachers of the Year. A culmination of these scores will determine the 2009 Kentucky Teacher of the Year, who will represent our state in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

The Kentucky winners will be announced Oct. 22.