



*WAFCS News – August, 2023*

# **WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES**

*It's time to announce! We have officially launched our new website!*

*[www.aafcs.org/wafcs/home](http://www.aafcs.org/wafcs/home)*

*Webmaster Char Kelley invites you to spend time looking at the new site.*

*For any information that's wanted to be included on the website contact Char at [ckelley@ecasd.us](mailto:ckelley@ecasd.us)*

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## **2023-2024 Executive Officers**

President – Michael Westbrook

FCS Educator at Menasha High School

President Elect – Sue Strutz

FCS Educator at School District of Wisconsin Dells

Past President – Char Kelley

FCS Educator at North HS, Eau Claire, WI

Secretary – Judy Knudsen

Area Extension Director for Brown County

Treasurer – Susan Turgeson

Associate Professor of FCS, UW-Stevens Point

VP of Professional Development – Stephanie Fox

FCS Educator at North Fond Du Lac Area Schools

VP of Awards & Recognition – Miranda Stroik

FCS Educator at DC Everest HS, Schofield, WI

VP of Communication & Technology – Tess Ligocki

FCS Educator at DeForest High School

Membership Chair – Diane Klemme

Professor of FCS Education, UW-Stout

## **MICHAEL'S WELCOME MESSAGE**

I'm so honored to be serving as your president and I can't wait for the year to come. I had the amazing opportunity to attend the AAFCS national conference in Baltimore in June. I was able to see old friends and make connections with new ones. I learned from speakers about how to advocate for our profession, found new techniques I can use to enhance my curriculum, and analyzed the fashion of the first ladies (that was super fun!) We all had a great time celebrating Miranda and Sue for their accomplishments at the national level, we are so proud of them! The passion for our profession was so uplifting and I can't wait to take that with me into this new year.

Though sometimes I wish summer could last forever, I can't help but be excited for the new possibilities and opportunity that this time of year provides. A new school year is just ahead of me and I can't wait to jump into my 6th year teaching and provide my students with skills and tools that they can use to be successful for the rest of their lives. Summer may just be about done, but the fun is just about to begin!

I am so glad that you are here and I can't wait to serve you to the best of my ability. Please reach out with any questions and ideas that you may have, I'm always an email away. [mmwestbrook4@gmail.com](mailto:mmwestbrook4@gmail.com)

## Are you Certified in FCS? (CFCS)

The WAFCS professional certification assures the public that the individual has:

1. attained a threshold level of knowledge that enables them to perform services as defined by the mission of the profession.
2. CFCS certification promotes professional growth by encouraging a systematic program of professional development and continuing education.
3. The CFCS credential distinguishes professionals with validated competency and a commitment to achieving excellence through ongoing professional development.
4. The WAFCS Foundation offers a \$100 certification incentive to WAFCS members who become fully certified. A great program that is greatly appreciated by WAFCS members! Check out the incentive information on page 3!

If interested in learning more about this process, the benefits of CFCS or if resources are needed for studying please reach out to Julie Anderson at [julie.rose.anderson24@gmail.com](mailto:julie.rose.anderson24@gmail.com) or Emily Larson at [larsone@amerysd.k12.wi.us](mailto:larsone@amerysd.k12.wi.us)



**Bethany Buenning**  
New Achiever



**Emily Larson**  
Teacher of the Year

### Member Spotlight

WAFCS Member Spotlight  
shines on  
Bethany Buenning and Emily Larson  
as this year's recipients of the New  
Achiever Award and the  
Teacher of the Year Award.

*WAFCS has many more stars to be recognized for the **Leader Award**, **Teacher of the Year** and the **New Achiever**! Fill out the award applications found on our website that must be submitted by **October 15th** to Mary Kennedy at [kennmaindel@gmail.com](mailto:kennmaindel@gmail.com) and Miranda Ritger at [miranda.ritger@gmail.com](mailto:miranda.ritger@gmail.com).*

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Editor: Cindy Quilling

All newsletter submissions are due the 1st of each month to  
[cindyquilling.wafcs@gmail.com](mailto:cindyquilling.wafcs@gmail.com)

## WAFCS Foundation

### Incentive to Achieve AAFCS Certification

The Wisconsin Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Foundation offers \$100 reimbursement of the cost of an AAFCS/WAFCS member becoming fully certified in any ONE of the certifications sponsored by AAFCS. The current initial certification application fee for AAFCS members is \$185 or \$105 for Graduating Seniors (full-time university, college, or post-secondary students). Reimbursing \$100 is intended as incentive to become certified as a graduating senior, when the fee is lower. Recognition of AAFCS/WAFCS members achieving full certification will be made in the WAFCS Newsletter, on the website, and on social media.

The \$100 reimbursement applies to achieving any ONE of the AAFCS-sponsored certifications listed below:

- CFCS: Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences
- CFCS-HDFS: Certified in Human Development and Family Studies
- CFCS-HNFS: Certified in Hospitality, Nutrition, and Food Science
- CNWE: Certified Nutrition and Wellness Educator
- CPFFE: Certified Personal and Family Finance Educator

More information about becoming certified and the various credentials can be found on the AAFCS website [aafcs.org](http://aafcs.org) under "Credentialing."

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Current AAFCS/WAFCS membership is required for reimbursement.
2. Reimbursement will only be made for achieving full certification, not just passing the competency exam associated with the credential.
3. AAFCS/WAFCS members become eligible for reimbursement for certification achieved after May 15, 2021. It does not apply to certifications achieved prior to this date.
4. An AAFCS/WAFCS member may receive the \$100 certification reimbursement ONLY ONCE. Additional reimbursement will not be awarded for achieving an additional approved certification.
5. Reimbursement is not available for recertification.

#### PROCEDURE:

Submit the following to Cindy Quilling, WAFCS Executive Director, E6006 US Hwy 12, Menomonie, WI 54751  
[cindyquilling.wafcs@gmail.com](mailto:cindyquilling.wafcs@gmail.com)

1. Name
2. Current USPS mailing address
3. Email address
4. Phone number
5. AAFCS Member Number
6. Copies of the letter verifying your certification and your certificate

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