

## Ashe Teacher NC's First 'WindSenator'

Written by Gary Childers

Wednesday, 03 October 2012 05:00

---

During its Monday evening meeting, Ashe County Board of Education recognized Ashe County Middle School teacher, Thelma Kastl, as North Carolina's first WindSenator Teacher. Ms. Kastl successfully completed the 5-day WindSenator training course in Maine. The WindSenators are a select group of master teachers representing 25 states who completed an intensive training session on wind energy science education hosted by KidWind. Thelma is the first WindSenator from the state of North Carolina. She was selected and supported to attend this training through a joint scholarship from KidWind, the US Department of Energy's Wind for Schools Program, and Appalachian State University. The WindSenators form a nationwide network of educators leading an outreach effort to engage students in renewable energy. WindSenators provide wind energy teacher trainings in their state and region, and also help facilitate student-driven wind turbine design competitions known as the KidWind Challenge. Mrs. Kastl will now be facilitating teacher training workshops and student outreach events in North Carolina.