Stockton Alumna Theresa Dougherty’s Military Child Tutoring Program Wins Honors

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Galloway Township, NJ - Theresa “Terry” Dougherty graduated from The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey with a B.A. in Teacher Education K-8 and in Sociology/Anthropology. Presently she is completing her Masters of Arts in Education at Stockton as a Reading Specialist. Terry has been teaching third grade in the Galloway Township District for 14 years.

She is the 2014 Atlantic County Teacher of the Year. Dougherty also is a panelist for the NJ Teacher Advisory Panel (NJTAP) working with the NJ Department of Education providing feedback on initiatives and suggesting opportunities to support teachers in increasing student achievement. She is also doing a two-year Parent/Educator Fellowship with the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC).

Dougherty won a $10,000 grant and was honored with a visit to the White House as the winner of the nationwide teaching contest, The Great American Teach Off, which recognized her free military child tutoring program called They are Heroes Too! Dougherty, a military wife and mother, started the program to help military children whose education may suffer due to frequent moves. It was featured in Family Circle magazine in 2013 and on New Jersey public television’s Classroom Closeup. Office Depot also filmed the program in the summer of 2014 as part of its program, Teachers Change Lives.

She partnered with Stockton’s Service-Learning Department to move the program to campus and expand it. Stockton students and area teachers work with the military children to improve their learning and skills.

Dougherty also earned the 2013 Stockton College Professional Achievement Award from the School of Education; the 2012 Atlantic County American Legion Teacher of the Year K-5; the 2012 New Jersey VFW K-5 Teacher of the Year, and Soroptimist International 2012 Woman of Achievement Person of the Year. She was chosen by the Galloway Township Public Schools Education Foundation as the 2012 School-Community Advocate for Education Person of the Year.

She and her husband Tom have two children, Laura and Tom, and son-in-law Ryan.