



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING




JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

September 8, 2009

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents,
Public School Academy Directors, Nonpublic School Superintendents,
Mathematics and Science Centers

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction 

SUBJECT: Recognizing Excellent Educators

The State Board of Education and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you much success in the 2009-2010 school year. We appreciate all that you do each and every day to provide a positive learning environment for all of Michigan's children.

Research demonstrates that the quality of the teacher is the most important in-school factor that explains student achievement. We would like your help in identifying excellence in teaching. Attached are a flyer and a chart that provides information on several teacher recognition programs. The programs are:

- Michigan Teacher of the Year (www.michigan.gov/mtoy)
- Talent Pool Recommendation (www.michigan.gov/talentpool)
- Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (www.paemst.org)

Please forward the flyer to members of your local school board, parent leaders, union leadership, school principals, human resource directors, and others who would be able to identify outstanding educators.

The Department also collaborates with the Milken Family Foundation on its National Educator Award process. There is no nomination or application procedure for this award. Information on the Milken Family Foundation can be accessed at www.mff.org.

The State Board of Education and I encourage you to participate in these programs. Recognizing the great contributions educators make to the learning community and to our children takes very little time and helps to boost the morale of these essential employees.

We would also appreciate it if you could link the Department Recognition Programs to your website using www.michigan.gov/trp. Questions regarding these programs may be directed to Ms. Jean M. Shane at shanej@michigan.gov.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS – PRESIDENT • JOHN C. AUSTIN – VICE PRESIDENT
CAROLYN L. CURTIN – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER
NANCY DANHOF – NASBE DELEGATE • ELIZABETH W. BAUER
REGINALD M. TURNER • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

Page 2
September 8, 2009

To assist all of us in getting the information about these recognition programs out to schools across the state, the information on the flyer will be printed in the form of postcards and personally distributed by MEEMIC agents. MEEMIC Insurance Company has contributed the design, print and distribution costs for both the flyer and the postcards. We are grateful to MEEMIC Insurance Company for their financial support of these initiatives and for providing corporate support to the Michigan Teacher of the Year program. For more information about MEEMIC Insurance Company, please visit www.meemic.com.

Thank you again for your commitment to the children and the future of Michigan. I am grateful.

Attachments

cc: William Mayes, MASA
David Martell, MSBO
Dan Quisenberry, MAPSA
Billie Wimmer, MCCSA