



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

September 30, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Gary Abud, Jr., 2013-2014 Michigan Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Teacher of the Year Report

- Met with and visited the classroom of nearly 500 K-12 teachers in Grosse Pointe Public Schools on instructional rounds to see firsthand the great things happening in teaching & learning.
- Worked with elementary, middle, and high school principals to execute the duties of my position as instructional coach in the Grosse Pointe Public Schools to support teaching and learning in all classrooms and building-level instructional goals for school improvement plans.
- Led a staff development for elementary teachers on standards-based assessment and grading.
- Worked with middle school math teachers on Common Core State Standards alignment and integration.
- Met with kindergarten teachers from Rochester Community Schools to teach them about iPads for instructional planning using Evernote.
- Presented to the Galileo Teacher Leadership Academy on instructional strategies that can be integrated with technology.
- Led a workshop for high school biology teachers in Troy Public Schools on Next Generation Science Standards.
- Presented to North Hill Elementary School in Rochester Hills on the use of iPads in the classroom.
- Met with representatives from the Meemic Foundation, who donated a Honda CRV to me to use for the year as MTOY.

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- Wrote a blog post for the Meemic website about the benefits of social media in education.
- Organized and initiated a grant pilot program of iPads + Apple TVs in core subject areas (math, science, English, and social studies) at Grosse Pointe North High School.
- Co-organized the GPNspire Talks Conference, a student-led TEDx-style event of inspirational student speeches from around Metro Detroit to be held in November.
- Launched and am currently running the 2014 Teacher Leadership Challenge to engage teachers statewide and around the world in thought-provoking conversations and blogging about educational leadership.
- Designed a resource for parents, educators, and students on social media and digital footprints.
- Attended the Bureau of Assessment & Accountability fall conference at Eastern Michigan University.
- Led the first meeting of the Detroit Metro Area Physics Teachers Association, of which I am the current president, engaging physics teachers in professional development.
- Ran staff workshops on Google Hangouts for elementary teachers.
- Had the first meetings of the New Teacher Small Group in Grosse Pointe, a peer-mentoring group for new teachers partnering them with successful teachers having less than five years of experience.
- Wrote three grants to pursue the expansion of the iPad + Apple TV pilot program in Grosse Pointe Public Schools.
- Presented to the Galileo Consortium Board of Directors in Birmingham on teacher leadership.
- Worked with high school math teachers on instructional technology, including flipped classroom instruction using Google Hangouts.
- Presented to Grosse Pointe Public Schools administrators on the Next Generation Science Standards.
- Was interviewed by the learning management system Haiku Learning for their blog about my use of standards-based grading in the classroom.
- Attended the MFutures conference in Detroit to represent the Network of Michigan Educators.