



Michigan Teacher of the Year Position Description

The Michigan Teacher of the Year (MTOY) program provides a great opportunity for an outstanding teacher to lead and serve, to learn and grow. The program is sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), the State Board of Education (SBE), and MEEMIC Insurance Company.

The MTOY will:

- Be a Highly Qualified Teacher in good standing with her/his district/employer.
- Serve as an ambassador for all Michigan teachers and for the MDE calling positive attention to education as an honorable profession, urging students and others to consider teaching as their chosen profession. The MTOY works to elevate the teaching profession and serves as an ambassador for the MTOY's own district.
- Inspire and challenge colleagues through professional development sessions and keynote addresses.
- Act as a role model for innovation in education.
- Work directly with the MTOY supervisor to: learn about the MDE, the SBE, the Network of Michigan Educators (NME), and government protocols; establish effective communication strategies (personal page for MDE website, up-to-date Outlook calendar, daily review of e-mail messages); set priorities for the year; confirm commitments, speaking engagements, committee and task force assignments, and appointments.
- Meet with the MDE management staff: Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board Executive, Public Information Officer, Legislative Directors, and the MDE Office Directors. The purpose of these meetings is for the MTOY to become familiar with the work of the agency, the current issues and messages of key leaders, and for agency leaders to learn about the MTOY.
- Attend State Board of Education meetings as a non-voting representative of Michigan educators. The MTOY should provide the voice/opinion/expertise of the teacher as policy issues are being addressed at Board meetings. The MTOY will prepare and present monthly reports to the Board. The MTOY will represent the Network of Michigan Educators (NME) at the Board meetings.

- The MTOY will become familiar with the goals of the State Board and structure much of his/her focus toward these goals, promoting current State Board strategic initiatives.
- Assist with policy development as requested by the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and members of the Legislature.
- When possible, the MTOY will participate in the Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP). This program meets in the Lansing area twice a month. There are also two out-of-state conferences that EPFP participants are required to attend. (EPFP provides great personal professional development. However, there is currently no financial support for participation in this.)
- Actively participate in the NME, serving on the Steering Committee and the annual conference planning committee. The MTOY will have a public role at the annual recognition banquet.
- Apply for the position of National Teacher of the Year (NTOY). (The NTOY serves in an on-loan capacity at the national level, traveling around the world, speaking on behalf of the teaching profession. Tom Fleming, 1991-92 MTOY, served as the 1992 National Teacher of the Year.)
- Participate in the National Teacher of the Year programs including: the National Conference, usually held in Dallas in January; the ceremonies announcing the National Teacher of the Year in Washington, D.C. in April; and NASA International Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama in July.
- Respond to requests for providing professional development sessions in the following areas: preservice and student teaching; curriculum issues (demonstrate promising practices); and areas of expertise and personal interest.
- Call attention to recognition programs including: MTOY, Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program, MDE Talent Pool, etc. Serve on award selection panels as appropriate.
- Prepare her/himself for interactions with the media; serve as a positive spokesperson on radio and television and with the print media.
- Participate in up to three events sponsored by MEEMIC Insurance Company, with lodging and meal expenses paid by MEEMIC.
- Maintain a blog that addresses appropriate educational issues for MEEMIC newsletter.

- Submit travel vouchers on a regular basis.
- Other duties as assigned.

Resources for the MTOY

Current and Former Teachers of the Year:

For current MTOY contact information please go to www.michigan.gov/mtoy

2011-2012 Paul Galbenski: paul.galbenski@oakland.k12.mi.us

2010-2011 Matinga Ragatz: matingaragatz@gmail.com

2009-2010 Robert L. Stephenson: rob.stephenson@okemosschools.net

2008-2009 Jennifer Haberling: jenniferhaberling@sbcglobal.net

2007-2008 June Teisan: jlteisan@gmail.com

2006-2007 Kim Kyff: kimberyff@aol.com

2005-2006 Dan Schab: schabd@gowcs.net

2004-2005 Heidi Capraro: caprarhe@northville.k12.mi.us

2003-2004 Bill Cecil: billcecil@bestyearever.net

2002-2003 Sue Gutierrez: sgutierr@fhps.k12.mi.us

2001-2002 Jim Linsell: linsellja@eastern.tcaps.net

2000-2001 Joan Garretson: garretj@walledlake.k12.mi.us

1999-2000 Margaret Holtschlag: holtsc2@msu.edu

Network of Michigan Educators Steering Committee:

Cindy Hasselbring: hasselbringc@milanareaschools.org

Bethany Rayl: bethanyrayl@gmail.com

Rob Stephenson: rob.stephenson@okemosschools.net

June Teisan: jlteisan@gmail.com

Bev Matulis: bmatulis@chartermi.net

Nancy Flanagan: nflanagan@centurylink.net

Matinga Ragatz: matingaragatz@gmail.com

Paul Galbenski – Current MTOY: paul.galbenski@oakland.k12.mi.us

MTOY Calendar Year

The following provides a basic outline of meetings the MTOY will attend. The MTOY manages her/his own calendar and is expected to add many other commitments to the calendar throughout the year.

June	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend Passing the Torch meeting (one day) Meet with outgoing MTOY and Special Assistant
July	Attend State Board of Education meeting
August	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend MDE annual staff meeting (August or September)
September	Meetings with key MDE staff Attend State Board of Education meeting
October	Attend State Board of Education meeting Invited to speak at an educational conference as part of the MEEMIC sponsorship
November	Attend State Board of Education meeting
December	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend Network of Michigan Educators Conference and Recognition Banquet
January	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend NTOY meeting in Dallas, TX (usually a Tuesday-Sunday)
February	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend MEEMIC Corporate meeting in Auburn Hills, MI (usually a Friday evening)
March	Attend State Board of Education meeting
April	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend NTOY ceremony in Washington, DC (usually a Monday-Friday)
May	Attend State Board of Education meeting
June	Attend State Board of Education meeting Attend Passing the Torch Meeting Meet with incoming MTOY
July	Participate in International Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama (usually Saturday-Friday)