



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

December 20, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Ms. June Teisan, 2007–2008 Michigan Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Teacher of the Year Report

In the Classroom

My students and I closed 2007 with a fabulous field trip to the New Detroit Science Center. Funded by a grant I received from the Masco Foundation, all of our 7th graders experienced a National Geographic movie at the IMAX, learned about Animal Grossology (quite popular with my middle schoolers!), toured the regular exhibits, and enjoyed a holiday laser light show in the planetarium for the day's finale. Without grant funding, enriching excursions like this would be almost impossible to schedule.

Our RocketMath! Adventure is scheduled to blast off at the end of January. We have been piloting the math curriculum and engineering activities with our eighth grade Algebra students. We will introduce the semester-long seventh grade adventure with an assembly featuring "WISE" college students (University of Michigan's Women in Science in Engineering) who will highlight STEM career (science, technology, engineering, and math) opportunities and give a preview of aeronautical acrobatics with a live rocket launch!

On the Road

In late January, I will attend the 2007-2008 conference for state teachers of the year. Sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers, the four-day event in Dallas will provide enriching activities designed to help state teachers further define what it means to be a teacher of the year. Training in the use of technology, conversations about best practice and teacher leadership, and tips on interviewing and working with the press are just a few of the topics on which we will focus.

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