



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Ms. Kimberly Kyff, 2006–2007 Michigan Teacher of the Year
SUBJECT: Teacher of the Year Report

Michigan Teacher of the Year Highlights

o Attended the *Kids Against Hunger* Program

This activity involved students from Hillside Middle School, Northville and Maybury Elementary School, Detroit. The purpose of this program is to empower the students to form friendships across communities while at the same time working toward providing food for people in need. The participants assembled food packets for distribution across the globe.

The program receives financial support from the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth.

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2

o First Year Teacher Workshop, Carmen-Ainsworth Community Schools.

I led an inter-active workshop on effective classroom strategies to ensure the engagement of all learners and the use of Universal Design for Learning in lesson design and implementation.

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2

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- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3
- Visited Eastern Middle School and Knapp Forest Elementary School, Forest Hills Public Schools.
 - Met with Susan Roustan, a first year foreign language teacher who is using I-Pods in the classroom to facilitate instruction. Sue Gutierrez, 2002-2003 Michigan Teacher of the Year, facilitated the visit.
 - Observed thematic lesson design at use in the elementary school.
- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3
- Visited Paddock Elementary, Symons Elementary and Milan High School, Milan Public Schools.
 - Read "The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig" to a multi-age 1st/2nd grade classroom at Paddock Elementary.
 - Observed a third grade mathematics lesson using the Smart Board at Symons Elementary.
 - Observed the use of technology in instructional design at Milan High School.
- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
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- Attended the Spring Planning Workshop for the 2007-2008 School Year, Office of School Improvement Field Services, Detroit Welcome Center, Detroit Public Schools.
 - Provided welcoming comments.
- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3

- o Attended the Jackson Future Teachers Conference

Provided an interactive workshop on effective teaching strategies and classroom management.

- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3

- o Attended the Michigan Education Association Unity Conference.

Provided the keynote address entitled, "Closing the Achievement Gap"

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3

- o Attended Detroit Public Schools Celebration of the National Teacher of the Year and the Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Provided keynote address: "Closing the Achievement Gap"

- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3

- o Attended Marquette Elementary School staff meeting, Detroit Public Schools.

Discussed National Board Certification and encouraged teachers to begin the process during the 2007-2008 school year.

- Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3

- o Attended meeting about the Recognizing Achievement Rewarding Excellence (RARE) Foundation.

This is a writing program that uses *The Detroit News* and *The Detroit Free Press* in classrooms. The RARE Foundation provides the Everyday Heroes program that encourages students to recognize and believe in the people who are in the immediate world around them. The students then write about their Everyday Hero

using the Six Traits of Good Writing and possibly earn monetary awards.

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
- Visited the classroom of Tina Harma, Kent Lake Elementary, South Lyon Schools.

Mrs. Harma is a first grade teacher at Kent Lake Elementary. The purpose of the visit was to help facilitate small group instruction for math and science.

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
- Visited the classroom of Bill Cecil, Waverly East Intermediate School, Waverly Schools. Bill Cecil was the 2003-2004 Michigan Teacher of the Year.

The purpose of the visit was to observe team building activities used to promote student achievement.

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
- Addressed University of Phoenix Masters in Education Students on the use of formative and on-going assessment to facilitate student understanding and achievement.
 - Ensure that Michigan classrooms are staffed with high quality teachers and paraprofessionals under the direction of administrators who are committed to instructional excellence. Objective 3
- Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP)
- State Board of Education Meeting
- Participated in the Teacher Preparation Policy Study Group
- Attended MEEMIC convention to express gratitude for the future support of the Michigan Teacher of the Year program.