



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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GOVERNOR

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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 29, 2007

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 Visit to **Moses Field School**, Detroit Public Schools

Steven Artt, principal

Moses Field is a center-based program with students from 3-13 years of age. All the students have special needs.

Participated in the school's Kwanzaa celebration. Read Santa's Kwanzaa by Garen Eileen Thomas at the school-wide assembly. Visited classrooms to view assistive technology utilized with the students to address their special needs.

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

o **Reading First** Tour, Detroit Public Schools, Jacque Bledsoe MDE Reading First Consultant

Clara Rutherford Academy. Miriam Adams, principal.

Mrs. C. Wize, Reading First Literacy Coach. Rutherford Academy practices Positive Behavioral Support (PBS). The school is in the fourth year of Reading First and is making yearly gains in achievement as evidenced by standardized testing results. Toured **Reading First** classrooms. Tutored small groups of students in vocabulary enrichment.

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Hanneman Elementary. Wendy Shirley, principal.

Hanneman is in the second year of **Reading First**. The school has a high English Language Learners population. They currently do not have a lower elementary bilingual teacher. Hanneman is scheduled to close at the end of this school year. Grade level meetings included discussions by the teachers regarding strategies to improve reading fluency.

- 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
- Attended **Beyond Basics** fundraiser meeting to encourage financial support and volunteerism for the program.

Pamela Good, President and Executive Director

Beyond Basics is a non-profit corporation that offers free reading, writing, and enrichment programs to students in Detroit Public Schools and City of Pontiac Schools

- Identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students. Objective 2
- Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP)
- State Board of Education Meeting
- Participated in the Teacher Preparation Policy Study Group