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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 4, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Mrs. Heidi Capraro, 2004-2005 Michigan Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Report on Teacher of the Year Activities for December 2005

December Activities

- Novice Teacher Workshop serving Clinton, Ingham, and Eaton ISDs
- Science Advisory Council, Lansing
- Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) Leadership Forum Conference, Miami, Florida
- State Board of Education Meeting
- Instructional Excellence Conference and Educator Recognition Banquet

Reflections

As part of my Michigan Teacher of the Year opportunities, I participate in the Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP). This month I traveled to Miami, Florida, to attend the EPFP Leadership Forum. The programs presented at the conference were designed to help the EPFP fellows develop a greater awareness and understanding of political leadership. I appreciated the opportunity to meet fellows from around the country. Attending the conference were three "Teacher of the Year" participants from other states and we enjoyed relating our experiences together. The forum provided me a chance to dialogue and reflect with others, the effects of political leadership on education.

The highlight of my experiences this month was the Instructional Excellence Conference and Educator Recognition Banquet. I was honored to have been invited to this event last year and to have met so many wonderful people. Attending the conference again this year, it was a pleasure

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to gather with colleagues that I had become acquainted with through The Network of Michigan Educators. The conference was productive for the group as we forged ahead to establish a Policy Action Team for The Network of Michigan Educators. The second day of the conference was devoted to sessions on Promising Practices. I presented on science activities to high priority school staff members. The Instructional Excellence Conference and Educator Recognition Banquet event was inspiring, and the banquet was a very special evening!