



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 18, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors
Nonpublic School Superintendents
School Principals

FROM: Mike Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction 

SUBJECT: Talent Pool Development

The Michigan Department of Education maintains a file of emerging classroom leaders that consists of a cadre of distinguished teachers and principals. These educators may be considered for membership on advisory boards and task forces, as well as candidates for special recognition programs. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and state and who may also ultimately receive prestigious recognition.

We are very fortunate to have a rich base of veteran secondary educators represented in our current talent pool. These educators have been and continue to be a valuable resource in our state efforts. What is particularly lacking at this time is representation from elementary (PK-6) educators relatively new to the profession who demonstrate unusual instructional and leadership ability. Such persons exhibit strong potential for professional leadership and inspiring presence that impacts students, colleagues, and the community.

Do you know a relatively new PK-6 educator who is illustrative not only of our state's, but also the nation's best? Whose lessons provide models for others? Who has distinguished her/himself above and beyond established top-quality professionals in many of our schools? A minimum of five years in education is a must. Candidates are building-level personnel. They are typically classroom teachers as opposed to specialists and are recognized by peers and supervisors as unique in their growth. Previous recognition is not required. In fact, of special interest are educators who are outstanding, but have not received public recognition.

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Please provide succinct and specific information regarding one to three candidates on the online form, accessed via

www.michigan.gov/talentpool

All questions must be answered. Please include a one-page narrative that addresses how the candidate meets the criteria mentioned in this letter, and also a current resume.

Please fax or e-mail a current resume and complete the online nomination process for each candidate by **May 1, 2008**. Faxes should be sent to Ms. Jean Shane at 517.335.4575. Questions may be directed to Jean at shanej@michigan.gov or 517.241.2375.

I urge you to take the time to recommend PK-6 grade educators. It is time to highlight the efforts of those who dedicate their professional lives to the children of the state of Michigan. If you find your time is constrained, please feel free to forward this request to an associate.

Your cooperation and assistance are greatly appreciated.