



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 7, 2009

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

FROM: Mike Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction 

SUBJECT: Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

You and I know that great things are happening in Michigan schools every day. Each year, we have the opportunity, through the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), to call attention to some of the outstanding teachers who work with our students.

The State Board of Education and I encourage you to bring this recognition and the monetary award to your teachers and schools. Nomination information for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is now available on the PAEMST web site at [www.paemst.org](http://www.paemst.org).

I encourage you to access this site to nominate excellent 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics and science teachers for this award. The nomination process can take as little as three minutes!

Highlights of the Award include:

- The 2009 award cycle is for secondary teachers who teach science or mathematics (7th-12th grade teachers)
- The Presidential Award includes:
  - A **\$10,000** National Science Foundation grant **made directly to the awardee to be spent at her/his discretion.**
  - An expenses-paid trip for the awardee and a guest to Washington, D.C. to attend an awards ceremony; to receive a Presidential Citation; and to meet with leaders in government and education.

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- **Teachers must be nominated** for the award. A supervisor, principal, colleague, parent, student, or member of the general public may nominate teachers. Teachers may also self-nominate. Nominees are **required to submit a videotaped lesson** as part of the application process.
- Directions for submitting applications are found online at [www.paemst.org](http://www.paemst.org).

I also encourage you to place a link on your school/district's web site to the PAEMST web site ([www.paemst.org](http://www.paemst.org)), and include information about the award in your school newsletters and faculty bulletins.

Questions regarding this award program may be directed to Ms. Betty Crowder at [ecrowder@rochester.k12.mi.us](mailto:ecrowder@rochester.k12.mi.us) or (248)760-6399. Betty is the President of the Michigan Science Teachers Association (MSTA). We are grateful to Betty and MSTA for their willingness to assume the leadership for this teacher recognition program. We are also grateful to the Michigan Council for the Teaching of Mathematics whose members will assist with the recruitment and selection processes for this program.

Please consider nominating the excellent secondary mathematics and science teachers you know for this prestigious award.

cc: AFT- Michigan, MEA, MAISA, MASA,  
MASB, MEMSPA, MANS, MACUL,  
MASCD, MAPSA, MASSP, MCTM,  
MMSCN, MSPRA, MSTA, DACTM, MDSTA