Kansas state department of Education

leadership and support for student learning

Kansas Education Shines

March 2011

Focus on Teachers and Administrators…

Curtis Chandler, an 8th grade language arts teacher at Wamego Middle School, USD 302 Wamego is the 2011 Kansas Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Tom Trigg, Superintendent of Blue Valley USD 229, was named the 2011 Superintendent of the Year by the Kansas Association of School Administrators.

Ms. Jacque Feist, Principal at Dodge City High School, Dodge City USD 443, was named the 2010 MetLife Principal of the Year by the Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Mr. Tim Hayden, Principal at Valley Center Middle School, Valley Center USD 262, was named the 2010 Principal of the Year by the Kansas Association of Middle School Administrators.

Mrs. Jody Baker, Principal at Meadowlark Elementary School, Andover USD 385, was named the 2010 Kansas Distinguished Principal of the Year by the Kansas Association of Elementary School Principals.

Cindy Couchman, math teacher at Buhler High School, Buhler USD 313, and Bruce Wellman, science teacher at Lawrence High School, Lawrence USD 497 were named 2009 Presidential Awards National Finalists.

Jeanie Padron, a 4th grade teacher at Maize Central Elementary School, USD 266, was named the 2010 Milken Family Foundation National Educator.

Thirty-two beginning educators from around the state were named 2011 Kansas Horizon Award recipients.

KSDE, Press Releases

In the 2009–10 school year, 92 percent of Kansas teachers were fully licensed in their assigned subject area and 91.5 percent were highly qualified according to No Child Left Behind legislation. Highly qualified teachers are fully licensed and have demonstrated depth of content in the area to which they are assigned. In 2010, 344 Kansas educators were certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards. Twenty new teachers received certification in 2010.

KSDE, Teacher Education and Licensure

Focus on Schools…

Kansas public schools maintain an average daily attendance rate of 95.2 percent.

KSDE, Report Card

A reported 89.1 percent of Kansas students graduate.

KSDE, Report Card

Eighty-one percent of all Kansas public schools made AYP in the 2009–10 school year, with 80.4 percent of Title 1 schools making AYP and 72 percent of districts.

KSDE, Report Card

Five Kansas schools received the 2010 Blue Ribbon School Award, joining 34 other Kansas schools which have been named since 2003. They are as follows: Franklin Elementary School, USD 475 Geary County; Lakeside Intermediate School, USD 272 Waconda; Woodlawn elementary School, USD 497 Lawrence; Garden Plain High School, USD 267 Renwick; St. George Elementary School, USD 323 Rock Creek.

U.S. Department of Education, Blue Ribbon Schools

Five Kansas schools were nominated for the 2011 Blue Ribbon School Award to be named in September 2011.

Forty-two Kansas elementary schools, 12 middle/junior high schools, and 20 high schools were part of the fourth annual Governor's Achievement Awards, honoring the top performing schools in the state.

One hundred twenty-nine Certificates of Merit were presented to 58 Kansas public school districts as part of the Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force Challenge Awards.

Resulting from the 2009-10 state assessments, Kansas awarded 2,532 Standard of Excellence certificates in mathematics and 3,007 certificates in reading.

KSDE, Press Releases

Focus on Students…

In 2010, the ACT national average composite score was 21, down a tenth of a percent from the previous year as Kansas students continued to perform better with an average composite score of 22. With 75 percent of all graduating seniors in Kansas taking the ACT, Kansas ranks in the top 20 percent in participation.

ACT, Inc.

Kansas public school students participating in the SAT assessment posted a mean score of 604 on critical reading, compared to the national average of 498. In mathematics, the mean score for Kansas public school students was 603, compared to the national mean score of 511. In writing, Kansas public school students posted a mean score of 580, far exceeding the national mean writing score of 488.

The College Board

Slightly fewer Kansas students took Advanced Placement (AP) exams in 2010, showing a 1.3 percent decrease from 2009. However, 7.4 percent more exams received grades of 3 or higher (5 point scale), which potentially qualified students for credit, advanced placement, or both at colleges and universities worldwide. Stephen Rong of Blue Valley West and Yanjie Yu of Blue Valley High School received AP State Scholar Awards for their outstanding performance on the Advanced Placement Program (APO) Examinations.

The College Board

Jeffrey Hanson of Overland Park and Marleah Mullen of Wichita were awarded 2011 Prudential Spirit of Community awards for their extraordinary community volunteer work. Gordie Hamilton of Mission Hills, Anna Lipscomb of Overland Park, Tayler McCullough of Rossville, and Megan Rowe of Leawood were named 2011 Kansas Distinguished Finalists.