

DUNELLEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Mr. Pio Pennisi
Superintendent of Schools
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Mr. Brian DeLucia
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary
(732)-968-3231

To: All Parents, Guardians, Staff Members & Students

From: Pio Pennisi 

Re: 2014-15 New Jersey Teacher of the Year

Date: December 6, 2013

The New Jersey State Teacher of the Year recognition program was developed for the purpose of acknowledging teachers who exhibit outstanding performance. The premise of recognizing teachers is based on the following: (1) the success of our public schools is due to the quality and dedication of their teaching staff; (2) recognizing excellence will encourage all teachers to continue to strive for excellence; (3) by giving the teaching profession the stature and recognition it deserves, more capable people will be attracted to the profession; and (4) like other professions, outstanding performance should be acknowledged.

Each principal, using a committee consisting of administrators and teachers will select a "Teacher of the Year" for each of their buildings. **The District will then select a district "Teacher of the Year" from the three building representatives.** Each District Teacher of the Year then becomes eligible to compete for the County Teacher of the Year award. A State Teacher of the Year is then chosen from the 21 County Teachers of the Year and the State Facility Teacher of the Year. The individual selected as State Teacher of the Year becomes New Jersey's nominee for National Teacher of the Year.

Parents, students, and current district employees may nominate a teacher. On the back of this memo is the Nominating Form. Please use the accompanying criteria that comes directly from the state to nominate one teacher who you believe is deserving of this honor. Teacher of the Year can only be awarded to individuals who have not earned this title within the past five (5) years. Below is a list of recipients from the last five years.

JPF	LMS	DHS
2013 - Terri Anastasi	2013 - Jeffrey Nolan	2013 - Michael DeLucca
2012 - Kristin Godshall	2012 - Lisa Stanely	2012 - James Santiago
2011 - Patricia Neoushoff	2011 - Dorene DeNapoli	2011 - Paola Kornspan
2010 - Janice Kipnis	2010 - Jeffrey Murray	2010 - Sandra Pinheiro
2009 - Eileen DeNapoli	2009 - Allyson Timinski	2009 - Keith Boyle

All nominations must be returned to the appropriate Building Principal's Office no later than 3:00 pm December 16, 2013. Thank you for your participation.

New Jersey Teacher of the Year Nominating Form

The candidates must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a licensed, highly-qualified (if applicable) classroom teacher (pre-K through grade 12) in a public or charter school;
- Have teaching as the primary responsibility rather than administrative or supervisory responsibilities;
- Be a dedicated and skilled teacher leader who is **planning to actively continue his/her teaching career for at least five (5) more years**;
- Inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn;
- **Demonstrate leadership** in educational activities at the school, district, and/or state and national level that take place both within or out of the school setting;
- Have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues; AND
- Demonstrate poise, eloquence and the ability to maintain a demanding schedule.

Based on the criteria above, I would like to nominate

Why (attach sheet if more space is needed): _____

Date

Signed

Please return no later than 3 pm on December 16, 2013 to the appropriate Building Principal's Office