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State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Members of the Maryland State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*  
**DATE:** May 27-28, 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Recognition of Maryland's 2009-2010 Teachers of the Year

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**PURPOSE:**

To recognize Maryland's newly named 2009-2010 local Teachers of the Year who will represent their school systems in the State and national Teacher of the Year competitions.

Approximately 100 guests of the teachers are expected to attend the Board recognition, including parents, children, and other family members, local superintendents, principals, and business partners.

**BACKGROUND AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Maryland has participated in the National Teacher of the Year Program for twenty years. The National Program is sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers in partnership with the ING Foundation. The Maryland program is sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education with its presenting partners, Maryland Automobile Dealers Association and McDonalds Family of Greater Baltimore, and Platinum Sponsors: Bank of America, Comcast, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Verizon, Maryland, and Whiting Turning Contracting.

The objective of both national and state programs is to draw public attention to the teaching profession and the contributions of our outstanding teachers. The Maryland Teacher of the Year represents the thousands of teachers in the public schools of our State and enters the National Teacher of the Year competition. National Teachers are accorded celebrity status and spend one year out of the classroom, traveling across the country bringing an education message to thousands of people. Maryland's Kim Oliver, selected as Maryland's first National Teacher of the Year in 2006, represented over three million teachers in America.

Maryland's Teacher of the Year, while not removed from the classroom, spends many days speaking at state conferences, graduations, community and other events, and is invited to join prestigious panels and education committees. The Maryland Teacher



participates in the National Teacher of the Year Conference in Dallas, Texas, the National Teacher of the Year Forum in Washington, DC, is recognized by the President and First Lady at the White House, and attends National Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Each year, all 24 local Maryland Teachers of the Year are honored at a large Gala held at Martin's West. The teachers are also honored by the Maryland General Assembly, Maryland's Congressional Delegation, the Baltimore Orioles and others.

**ACTION:**

The State Superintendent and State Board President will present each Teacher of the Year with a State Board of Education Citation. A portfolio will also be presented and commemorative pictures will be taken.

**P.S.**

**Please plan to attend the Teacher of the Year Luncheon\* which follows the State Board Meeting. Details follow:**

Teacher of the Year Luncheon Celebration

May 28, 2009

12 noon - 2:00 p.m.

Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel (across from MSDE)

The Liberty Ballroom