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**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO BE PROPOSED:  
January 5, 2011**

WHEREAS: Shelley Thompson, a fourth grade teacher at Totoket Valley Elementary School in North Branford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been selected by the Milken Family Foundation for the 2010-11 National Educator Award;

WHEREAS: Her accomplishments will be recognized at the Milken Family Foundation National Education Conference as Connecticut's National Milken Educator; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her school, her community, her state and her profession.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS SHELLEY THOMPSON WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.**

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this fifth day of January, Two Thousand Eleven.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Mark K. McQuillan, Commissioner of Education

**DATE:** January 5, 2011

**SUBJECT:** 2010-11 Milken Educator Award

*Executive Summary*

**Introduction**

The purpose of this report is to honor the Connecticut recipient of the 2010-11 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. The Milken Educator Award correlates with the State Board of Education priority of high academic achievement of all students in reading, writing, mathematics and science, in that it recognizes teachers who exhibit strong leadership skills to become school leaders/administrators.

**History/Background**

The Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards program provides public recognition and financial rewards to elementary and secondary school teachers, principals and other education professionals who are furthering excellence in education. By honoring outstanding educators, the program strives to attract, develop, motivate and retain talented professionals.

Each year, the Connecticut State Department of Education identifies candidates for the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award through a confidential process with recommendations submitted to a talent pool. Sources for the talent pool may include superintendents, district curriculum and professional supervisors, principals, teacher training institutions, education leaders and professional organizations. Once this process is completed, the Connecticut State Department then recommends candidates to the Foundation through a Blue Ribbon panel.

**Recommendation and Justification**

I recommend that the Board honor Shelley Thompson, an elementary school teacher at Totoket Valley Elementary School in North Branford, as Connecticut's 2010-11 Milken Family Foundation National Educator recipient. She was chosen as the Connecticut recipient of the Milken Educator Award by the Milken Family Foundation for her outstanding work in the classroom and beyond.

Shelley Thompson has taught at Totoket Valley Elementary School for five years and has authored the district's curriculum for gifted and talented students while serving on the writing, science and world language curriculum committees. At Totoket Valley, she serves on the Positive Behavior Intervention Committee and the school's Leadership Team. Ms. Thompson was honored at a schoolwide assembly on November 15, 2010.

**Follow-up Activity**

Ms. Thompson will represent Connecticut at the annual Milken Family Foundation National Education Conference in March 2011.

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