

VI.B.

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

TO BE PROPOSED: January 5, 2011

WHEREAS: Kristen Ann Record, a physics teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen to represent her colleagues as the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year;

WHEREAS: Her accomplishments will receive national attention as Connecticut's representative in the 2011 National Teacher of the Year Program; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS KRISTEN ANN RECORD WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

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: 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year

Executive Summary

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to honor the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year. The Teacher of the Year Program 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 excellent educators who believe that all students, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or socioeconomic status, can achieve at high levels.

History/Background

During the spring of 2010, superintendents of schools, acting on the recommendation of students, parents, professional associations, principals and teachers, nominated 106 exceptional teachers for consideration in the Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program. Each teacher completed an extensive nomination packet, which included: an employment and educational history; an outline of professional development activities, honors and awards; a description of educational and civic contributions; letters of recommendation; and seven essays. The essays covered the following topics: motivation to enter the teaching profession; accomplishments and contributions to the field; volunteer and civic activities; philosophy of teaching; views on current educational issues and trends; views on improving and strengthening the teaching profession; teacher accountability; and a prospective message as Teacher of the Year.

The nominees' portfolios were reviewed by a 20-member selection committee, including representatives from the Connecticut Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, Connecticut Association of Schools, Connecticut Education Association, Connecticut State Federation of Teachers, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Connecticut State Department of Education Consultants, Parent-Teacher Association of Connecticut, Inc. and former Connecticut Teachers of the Year.

From the original group of local Teachers of the Year, 15 teachers were selected as semifinalists. The semifinalists were invited to come before the selection committee to make a formal

presentation on a pre-assigned topic and to respond to questions. From this group of semifinalists, four teachers were selected as finalists. The selection committee then visited the schools of each of the finalists for a half-day, observing the teachers' classes and interviewing colleagues, administrators, students, support staff, parents and local board of education members.

Recommendation and Justification

I recommend that the Board honor Kristen Ann Record as the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year. Ms. Record is a full-time physics teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford. Ms. Record was the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching recipient, and was elected as a member of the 2010 Connecticut Academy for Education in Mathematics, Science and Technology Fellows Program. She is published in the *Journal of Undergraduate Research* and *Applied Physics Letters*.

Ms. Record earned a Ed. M. from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; a B.S. *Magna Cum Laude* from Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT; and Science Instruction and Study, Sixth-year Program Certificate, Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven. Ms. Record has 10 years of teaching experience, all at Bunnell High School.

This outstanding teacher was chosen through a statewide competition coordinated by the State Department of Education to represent the many outstanding teachers throughout Connecticut. She was honored at the Connecticut Teacher of the Year ceremony held at Central Connecticut State University on November 3, 2010.

Follow-up Activity

As Connecticut's Teacher of the Year, Kristen Ann Record now becomes Connecticut's nominee for the 2011 National Teacher of the Year Award.

Prepared by: _____
Joanne R. White, Education Consultant
Bureau of Teaching and Learning

Reviewed by: _____
Harriet Feldlaufer, Chief
Bureau of Teaching and Learning

Approved by: _____
Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Associate Commissioner
Division of Teaching, Learning and
Instructional Leadership

VI.A.1

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

TO BE PROPOSED: January 5, 2011

WHEREAS: Rita M. Baker, a German and French teacher at Greenwich High School in Greenwich, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS RITA M. BAKER WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

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

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

VIA.2

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

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

WHEREAS: Catherine M. Freeman, a mathematics intervention teacher at Sage Park Middle School in Windsor, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS CATHERINE M. FREEMAN WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

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

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

VI.A.3

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

TO BE PROPOSED: January 5, 2011

WHEREAS: Sharon C. Truex, a reading teacher at West Hill School in Rocky Hill, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS SHARON C. TRUEX WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

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: 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year Finalists

Executive Summary

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to honor the finalists for the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program. The Teacher of the Year Program 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 excellent educators who believe that all students, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or socioeconomic status, can achieve at high levels.

History/Background

During the spring of 2010, superintendents of schools, acting on the recommendation of students, parents, professional associations, principals and teachers, nominated 106 exceptional teachers for consideration in the Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program. Each teacher completed an extensive nomination packet, which included: an employment and educational history; an outline of professional development activities, honors and awards; a description of educational and civic contributions; letters of recommendation; and seven essays. The essays covered the following topics: motivation to enter the teaching profession; accomplishments and contributions to the field; volunteer and civic activities; philosophy of teaching; views on current educational issues and trends; views on improving and strengthening the teaching profession; teacher accountability; and a prospective message as Teacher of the Year.

The nominees' portfolios were reviewed by a 20-member selection committee, including representatives from the Connecticut Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, Connecticut Association of Schools, Connecticut Education Association, Connecticut State Federation of Teachers, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Connecticut State Department of Education Consultants, Parent-Teacher Association of Connecticut, Inc. and former Connecticut Teachers of the Year.

From the original group of local Teachers of the Year, 15 teachers were selected as semifinalists. The semifinalists were invited to come before the selection committee to make a formal presentation on a pre-assigned topic and to respond to questions. From this group of semifinalists, four teachers were selected as finalists. The selection committee then visited the schools of each of the finalists for a half-day, observing the teachers' classes and interviewing colleagues, administrators, students, support staff, parents and local board of education members.

Recommendation and Justification

I recommend that the Board honor Rita M. Baker, a German and French teacher at Greenwich High School in Greenwich; Catherine M. Freeman, a mathematics intervention teacher at Sage Park Middle School in Windsor; and Sharon Truex, a reading teacher at West Hill School in Rocky Hill, as finalists for the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year. They were chosen through a statewide competition coordinated by the State Department of Education to represent the many outstanding teachers throughout the state. They were honored at the Connecticut Teacher of the Year ceremony held at Central Connecticut State University on November 3, 2010.

Prepared by: _____
Joanne R. White, Education Consultant
Bureau of Teaching and Learning

Reviewed by: _____
Harriet Feldlaufer, Chief
Bureau of Teaching and Learning

Approved by: _____
Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Associate Commissioner
Division of Teaching, Learning and
Instructional Leadership