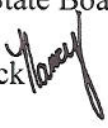




Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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To: Members of the State Board of Education

From: Nancy S. Grasmick 

Date: July 15, 2008

Subject: Recognition of Joshua Dorsey, recipient of the MICCA 2008 Outstanding Educator Using Technology Award winner, and Thea Jones, winner of the MICCA and International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) 2008 Outstanding Technology Leader Awards

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to recognize Joshua Dorsey for his State technology award and Thea Jones for her State and national technology awards.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

Established in 1986, MICCA is the State technology association for educators. The mission of MICCA is “to provide leadership for advancing meaningful uses of technology in the educational communities of Maryland.” <http://www.miccaonline.org/>. Each year, MICCA recognizes one educator from each Maryland school system, and from AIMS, the Association of Independent Maryland Schools, for his or her use of educational technology in the teaching and learning process and from that group of educators selects one person as the Outstanding Educator Using Technology of the Year.

This year’s recipient was Joshua Dorsey, a mathematics teacher at Southern High School in Anne Arundel County, who was honored at the MICCA spring conference and received a technology award, thanks to the sponsorship of Dell Computer. A highly regarded mathematics teacher, Mr. Dorsey also is a leader in Anne Arundel County and across the State in the effective use of technology in instruction. At Southern High School, he teaches advanced mathematics to students across seven schools through distance-learning tools. Mr. Dorsey’s students have consistently scored more than double the national average on their AP exams. In addition to teaching mathematics for Anne Arundel County, he has also taught online AP Calculus for the Maryland Virtual School, a component of the Maryland State Department of Education’s Maryland Virtual Learning Opportunities Program. In October 2007, Mr. Dorsey was featured in a *Baltimore Sun* article, “Technology Goes the Distance for Students.”



MICCA also honors one outstanding technology leader in the state each year. This award recognizes an educator outside the classroom who has made exemplary contributions to the implementation of technology in Maryland schools. The state award winner is honored at the MICCA spring conference and receives a technology award, again thanks to the sponsorship of Dell Computer. As an affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), MICCA submits the name of its top honoree for the international Outstanding Technology Leader in Education Award. Thea Jones, Supervisor of the Office of Instructional Technology for Baltimore County Public Schools, received this year's MICCA Outstanding Technology Leader Award and, on April 29, 2008, ISTE announced that Ms. Jones was also their choice for the ISTE 2008 Outstanding Technology Leader Award. Ms. Jones received her award at the annual National Education Computing Conference (NECC), held in San Antonio from June 29 to July 2, 2008.

Ms. Jones, a longtime Baltimore County educator, received the awards for her passion, leadership and vision in the integration of technology into all instruction. Ms. Jones established the multi-faceted Office of Instructional Technology for Baltimore County to provide leadership in technology integration to improve student achievement, teacher professional development and virtual learning. As its supervisor, she has spearheaded a variety of supports for teachers, including the Technology Liaison Program, Elementary Technology Integration Teachers, and Technology Integration Resource Teachers.

Ms. Jones has made numerous presentations at state and national conferences and has taught educational technology courses at the Johns Hopkins University's Center for Technology in Education, the College of Notre Dame, and Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College). Currently she serves on two State-level committees, the Professional Development Advisory Council and the Maryland Instructional Technology Advisory Council.

SUMMARY:

Recipients of the MICCA Outstanding Educator using Technology and Outstanding Technology Leader awards exemplify the highest standard for the effective integration of technology into instruction and leadership for other educators. In addition to their personal recognition, Mr. Dorsey and Ms. Jones represent many educators around the State who work diligently to ensure that instructional technology is at the core of quality teaching and learning.

ACTION:

No action required. For recognition and information only.