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State Superintendent of Schools

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TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*

DATE: March 22, 2011

SUBJECT: Recognition of Maryland's 2010 National Milken Educator

BACKGROUND:

On January 12, 2011, Nancy Grasmick and Jane Foley, Senior Vice President of the Milken Family Foundation announced to a surprised teacher at Woodholme Elementary School in Baltimore County, that he had been selected as a winner of the prestigious Milken National Educator Award. The announcement took place at a school assembly with the entire student body.

Maryland has had a partnership with the Milken Family Foundation for eighteen years, and has successfully identified fifty-five Maryland educators who have won the Milken prize, a non-restricted cash award of \$25,000. This cash award will be given to each national winner at this year's Milken Educator Forum being held this spring in Santa Monica, California. With this year's honorees, the Milken Foundation will have contributed \$1,375,000 to Maryland's Milken National Educators. Each year, the Maryland State Board of Education honors the newly selected teacher.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This year's recipient is **McKinley Broome**, a fourth grade teacher at Woodholme Elementary School in Baltimore County. He will be accompanied by his superintendent, principal, local administrator and family members.

The recipient will be introduced and a brief video will be shown capturing the excitement of the surprise announcement made this past fall. Mr. Broome will speak briefly about the personal and professional significance of this recognition.

ACTION:

Our new Milken National Educator will be presented the Milken National Educator crystal obelisk and an MSDE/State Board Citation. Commemorative photos will be taken. State Board members will have an opportunity to congratulate the winner and her professional colleagues.

McKinley Broome

Teacher

2010

Woodholme Elementary School

Baltimore, MD

Subject(s) Taught: General Elementary

Grade(s): 4

At the time of the Award, McKinley Broome was:

Teacher

Woodholme Elementary School

Baltimore, MD

Subject(s) Taught: General Elementary

Grade(s): 4

Biographical Information:

Instructional leader, technology expert, fourth-grade math and reading classroom teacher, and grade-level chair, McKinley Broome is a role model for students and teachers alike. At Woodholme Elementary in Baltimore, MD, Broome demonstrates a tireless commitment to increase achievement for the school's students, of whom nearly 80 percent are African-American and 34 percent participate in the Free and Reduced-Price Meals (FARM) program. His abilities to make learning fun, explain complex concepts in understandable ways, and use data to drive and differentiate instruction have yielded tremendous dividends. His fourth-grade students received proficient or advanced math scores on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) for 2008 and 2009. In 2009, nearly 70 percent scored advanced while in reading. Thanks in part to Broome's contributions, Woodholme Elementary ranked #1 in the state for reading and math compared to similar schools.

Part of Broome's success lies in reaching students both in and out of the classroom. He coordinates the "212 Crew," in which students rap about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and the MSA, and created the "A" Club, which promotes good study habits by offering students the opportunity to devote lunch and recess time to hands-on chemistry projects. Broome's leadership and enthusiasm have been put to good use in strengthening teacher effectiveness at the school and district levels. As co-chair of Woodholme's curriculum and staff development action team and a member of the Towson University Professional Development School, Broome shares strategies with colleagues and pre-service teachers; guides teachers how to infuse technology into their lessons; and trains them on data collection as the assessTrax testing program liaison. He is the school improvement team chair as well a coach for students and their families on Woodholme's award-winning Black Saga team, enriching understanding of the African-American experience.