



Team Effort Award Nomination Form

The purpose of the Team Effort Award is to recognize outstanding groups of individuals who, through teamwork, have made exceptional contributions to the department, building, or district. Administrators or supervisors may submit nominations by completing this form.

Name of Nominees	Position(s) Held	Worksite Location
See attached.		

Recognition of group effort for performance/achievement in:
See attached.

Group's willingness to work with staff, administration, or other support staff (explain):
See attached.

Additional reasons this group is deserving of this award (attach additional sheets, as needed):
See attached.

Nominated by: Sheila Alles
Worksite Location: Academic Services
Phone: 734-744-2614

Questions should be directed to: Donna McDowell at
dmcdowel@livonia.k12.mi.us or x42133.

<u>Names of Nominees</u>	<u>Position(s) Held</u>	<u>Worksite Location</u>
Pat Griffin	Teacher	Grant - left the district
Kim Kozan	Teacher	Roosevelt
Julia Buzzard	Teacher	Garfield
Carol McClowry	Teacher	Hayes - retired
Chris Wojcik	Teacher	Buchanan
Kathy Carter	Teacher	Buchanan
Elizabeth Quashnie	Teacher	Kennedy
Amy Truchan	Teacher	Roosevelt
Sue Stromberg	Teacher	Cass
Chris Schulte	Teacher	Roosevelt
Julie Wyett	Teacher	Cleveland
Doreen Byrne	Teacher	Grant
Pat Horgan	Teacher	Hoover
Shari Mayne	Teacher	Cass
Kim Carty	Teacher	Roosevelt
Kim Krohn	Teacher	Cass
Abbie Kidder	Teacher	Coolidge
Sue Fraelich	Teacher	Webster
Sue Joslin	Teacher	Roosevelt
Cindy Hamby	Teacher	Grant
Bette Knedgen	Teacher	Kennedy – retired
Katherine Barnes	Teacher	Rosedale
Dawn Guthard	Teacher	Cleveland
Sue Bliss	Teacher	Hayes
Erika Rebbe	Teacher	Johnson
Cathy Santi	Teacher	Cooper
Dona Gossett	Teacher	Riley
Kristyn Schulkins	Teacher	Riley – now Principal at Grant
Dan Vlcko	Teacher	Riley
Chris Pinta	Teacher	Johnson
Christine Fankell	Elementary Literacy Facilitator	Academic Services
Loren Schnell	Elementary Literacy Coach	Academic Services
Rosanne Stark	Elementary Literacy Coach	Academic Services
Bridget Regan	Teacher	Kennedy

Team Effort Award
Nomination for: Elementary Writing Curricular Calendar Team
January, 2011

Narrative:

The Elementary Writing Curricular Calendar Team is a dedicated group of teachers who represent all elementary grades. It was formed four years ago for the purpose of developing an elementary writing curriculum. The team began with the Lucy Calkins Writing Kits as a foundation for their work. However, they quickly realized that these kits did not provide the grade level specificity nor the instructional comprehensiveness our teachers expected and needed. Over the next four years, the team of 30 teachers under the guidance and direction of the district's three-person elementary literacy leadership team, produced 6 Units of Study for Teaching Writing for each grade, kindergarten-sixth, for a total of 42 separate writing units. In addition, the team created and presented the professional development sessions for the implementation of the grade level writing units totaling 42 separate professional development sessions over a two year period. All elementary teachers have attended at least one half day of training for each of the writing units. What a gigantic accomplishment!

The Units of Study for Teaching Writing provide a model for teaching a variety of writing genres. Research states that students need to be able to navigate different types of genres in order to become competent and literate members of society. In Livonia Public Schools, genre study is the foundation of our elementary writing program. The Elementary Writing Curricular Calendar Team has identified the genres to be studied at each grade level to ensure consistency of instruction and consistency of student learning from school-to-school and grade-to-grade across our district. The team created a Writing Resource binder that includes the following resources they wrote: a Curricular Calendar for the Writing Units of Study, a series of lesson plans for teaching each of the writing units, and a Grammar Continuum that specifies the grammar, punctuation and spelling concepts to be taught at each grade level. To support teachers in their teaching of genres, the writing team identified key professional and instructional resources for teachers to use as they teach each of the writing genres. It is obvious that this team has not only met, but exceeded the expectation to develop a comprehensive writing program that provides our elementary students across our district with common experiences as they become proficient and competent writers.

As you can readily ascertain, the development of the grade level specific units of study for teaching writing has been a tremendously ambitious endeavor and a tremendously enormous accomplishment for our district. This writing program was made possible due to the dedicated efforts and extensive expertise of the 30-teacher team and our elementary literacy leadership team. It is through their talents, dedication, and creative energy that these units and the professional development to implement them were made possible for our elementary teaching staff. I am very proud of the Elementary Writing Curricular Calendar Team and deeply appreciative of their endless commitment to this monumental project. The completion of this curriculum project exemplify our Mission statement, "Teaming together to ensure learning for all," as the 30 teachers involved worked collaboratively and cooperatively together for four years. It's also illustrative of our Shared Vision where "LPS stands as a lighthouse district, a beacon of excellence offering exceptional educational opportunities for all children and serving as a source of pride for our community." The 42 individual Units of Study for Teaching Writing are a source of pride for our district as nothing like this exists commercially and they provide our students with a comprehensive writing program that supports them on their journey through the elementary grades to become skilled and talented writers.