

H·E·F

A Catalyst for Excellence in Education.

Dear Holliston Teacher,

February, 2010

The Holliston Education Foundation (HEF) would like to invite you to participate in a program to support and recognize extraordinary teaching in the Holliston Schools. This initiative, called **“Spotlight on Excellence”** is designed to bring the remarkable work of Holliston’s teaching staff into the public eye. Far too often, the inventiveness, creativity and dedication of individual teachers are well known to colleagues, but not to the community at large.

In the same spirit as our “Thank A Teacher” program, HEF wishes to extend the community’s gratitude to individual teachers through a **“Spotlight on Excellence”** award. One recipient from each school will receive a \$250 grant for curriculum enhancement. In addition, honorees will be recognized with a plaque presented by HEF at an awards ceremony in April. Family and community members are invited to this special occasion. Thanks to your efforts last year, HEF honored Shawna Frost, Lydia Shields, Susan Williams, Ginny Caruso and Lorraine Boles.

We are asking teachers at each school to nominate a colleague who they feel meets **one or more** of the following criteria: 1) Above and Beyond the Call of Duty, 2) A New Approach, or 3) Building Relationships. These themes are detailed on the nomination form (attached). The deadline for submission is **Friday, March 19, 2010**. Please return your form in a sealed envelope to to the HEF box in your school’s office. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Doonan at jjdoonan@verizon.net, or Jayne Jones at jrj3924@aol.com.

The Holliston Education Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization established to raise funds to enrich, foster, enhance, and support public education in Holliston. The mission of the Holliston Education Foundation is to catalyze excellence and innovation in education through support for outstanding teacher initiatives, recognition of teacher achievement, and by assisting HHS seniors in their pursuit of higher education.

Unlike other parent/teacher organizations in Holliston, HEF is independent of individual schools and seeks to promote excellence across all grade levels. The foundation accomplishes our mission by working in collaboration with educators, business leaders, service organizations, and residents of the community. Funding for initiatives comes from special events, the annual HEF Community Trivia Bee, the Thank-A-Teacher Drive, and independent contributions. For more information, please visit our web site: www.hollistoneducationfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

The Holliston Education Foundation

2009-2010 HEF Board Members: Joanne Apesos, Sally Calhoun, Winnie Carey, Tim Cornely, Mary-Lou Destefano, Julie Doonan, Donald Gray, Jayne Jones, Carol McClennan, Beth Sherr, Kathleen Smith, Annalisa Michielli, Kyle Ryan, and Kathy Balcom.

The Holliston Education Foundation

“SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE” Award Nomination

Return to HEF Box (in your school office) no later than Friday, March 19, 2010

Description of Excellence:

The themes below are intentionally broad and designed to be used as guidelines for describing examples of excellence. Feel free to write about one or more. **Teachers are selected for this award based on the strength of the nomination that you submit. Please give us some specific examples** that describe the way a teacher’s work reflects the following:

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty: In many facets of their work, teachers go above and beyond the call of duty every day! Help us recognize a person who has made a special effort to go beyond the boundaries of regular classroom responsibilities to enrich the curriculum, or improve a school environment.

A New Approach: Many of the challenges teachers face have been around forever (how do children best learn their times tables?), other issues are more recent (how does the Internet play a role?). Tell us about a colleague who has developed a new approach to address an old, or a new teaching challenge.

Building Relationships: The relationship a teacher establishes with his or her students is at the heart of teaching. Also significant are the relationships between professionals in a school building. Please make us aware of a teacher who has forged a special relationship with colleagues that enriches the lives of the students and teachers involved.

Thank you in advance for nominating a colleague to receive a “Spotlight on Excellence” award.

Your Name _____ School _____

Teacher you wish to nominate:

Name _____ School _____ Grade/Subject Taught: _____

Reasons Why _____

