

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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October 16, 2006

Contact Person

Name: Bonita Hampton
Phone: 850/245-0544
Suncom: 850/205-0544
Email: Bonita.Hampton@fldoe.org
K12: 2006-153

MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida School District Superintendents
Directors, University Research Schools
President, Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind
Assistant Director for Education and Job Training, Department of Corrections
Human Resource Directors
Teacher of the Year District Program Coordinators

FROM: Commissioner John L. Winn

SUBJECT: **2008 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-MACY'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION PACKET**

The Florida Department of Education-Macy's Teacher of the Year Program recognizes and honors outstanding classroom teachers who have demonstrated a superior capacity to inspire a love of learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities. Florida's public school system has made significant progress in student achievement, and research has shown that the most significant factor in raising student achievement is the quality of the teacher. Thus, recognizing individuals who make a difference in the lives of students is a priority for the Florida Department of Education, and we strongly encourage each district to participate in this prestigious recognition program.

The 2008 Florida Department of Education-Macy's Teacher of the Year Nomination Packet is complete and may be obtained on our website at the following link: <https://www.firn.edu/doe/profdev/yeartch.htm>. Please download the Nomination Packet, which includes the Application; the Nomination Form; and information regarding eligibility, selection criteria and the procedure for designating a district nominee.

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The Florida Teacher of the Year and finalists will be chosen from the nominations received by the Department of Education. The finalists and the District Teachers of the Year will be invited to attend the Florida Department of Education's Teacher of the Year Roundtable and the Gala Awards Ceremony sponsored by Macy's.

Thank you for your continued support of this program. We look forward to receiving the nomination materials for your district's nominee no later than **Monday, March 12, 2007**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bonita Hampton. Her contact information is provided above.

JLW/bh