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Amy Moore

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Left: Paula Moreau, teacher, Montague Area Public Schools,
Right: Kevin O'Neill, Superintendent of Coopersville Area Public Schools

Outstanding Award Winners

by Amy Moore

The College of Education Alumni Association has once again selected the recipients for the December 2005 College of Education Outstanding Educator and Outstanding Administrator Awards. In September a call for nominations went out to area principals and superintendents asking them to nominate a Grand Valley State University College of Education alumnus who is doing outstanding work in their field of education. Nominations were taken over the

Call for Nominations

If you would like to nominate a GVSU alumni who is making great strides in education please go to www4.gvsu.edu/soe to make a nomination for Outstanding Educator or Outstanding Administrator. Awards will be given out during the April 28, 2006 Convocation ceremony. Nominations will be open until March 1, 2006 so make your nomination today!

COE website and the winner was selected by the COE Alumni Association Board. The selection was then taken to the COE faculty who endorsed this award which will be handed out during the COE Convocation ceremony on December 8, 2005.

This year COE will be honoring Paula Moreau, a teacher from Montague Area Public Schools as Outstanding Educator. Ms. Moreau was selected for this honor due to her work in integrating the concepts of gender differences in mathematics education. Once Paula introduced concepts related to gender differences, the math faculty in Montague Area Public Schools experienced higher female enrollment in upper level math classes at a much higher rate than in the past. These math concepts can be found in a paper Paula authored entitled: "Gender Differences in Mathematics Education". This paper was presented to the State Department of Education auditor when he visited the school to see how the School Improvement Plan was working. The auditor was so impressed with the concept that he asked for a copy of the paper in order to share the ideas with other educators. The paper is currently on file in the K-12 Curriculum Resource Center in the GVSU library.

Kevin O'Neill, Superintendent of Coopersville Area Public Schools will also receive honors during the Convocation ceremony. Dr. O'Neill will receive the

Outstanding Administrator Award due to his ability to lead Coopersville educators in a district that continues to flourish. Recently, the Coopersville High School received the Blue Ribbon award and according to his nominator: "Kevin is tenacious in regards to improving all aspects of Coopersville Area Public Schools and its community".

Kevin was one of the first GVSU students to complete his dissertation and receive his Ed.D. through the Grand Valley State University-Eastern Michigan University Doctoral Cohort program. He presents twice annually for the GVSU student teachers as an active participant on the Administrative Panel during the final Undergraduate Professional Development days. As Superintendent of Coopersville Area Public Schools, he encourages and supports appropriate mentor/mentee programs in coordination with Coopersville Education Associate leaders, serves on many local boards, and is involved in various community projects.

COE extends our congratulations to the Outstanding Award winners and will celebrate them during the COE Convocation. The ceremony marks the beginning of our students teaching careers and recognizes our graduates as teachers and fellow educators. The ceremony will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the DeVos Place Ballroom of the DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids, MI on December 8, 2005. ☺