



NJDOE News

Contact: Richard Vespucci
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Union County Teacher Wins McAuliffe Fellowship

Georgia Stromick, a biology and nutrition science teacher at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in Scotch Plains, Union County, is New Jersey's recipient of the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship for 2001-2002. Commissioner of Education Vito A. Gagliardi, Sr. introduced the honored teacher at today's regular meeting of the State Board of Education.

"Georgia Stromick is a dedicated member of the teaching profession who devotes many hours preparing for her teaching responsibilities," said Commissioner Gagliardi. "She is highly regarded as a master teacher and a professional leader by her peers.

"Her students have been fortunate to benefit from her knowledge and expertise," Dr. Gagliardi said. "I look forward to see the results of her fellowship project."

The McAuliffe fellowship will enable Stromick to modify her school's existing nutrition science course to be used as a replacement science class for special education students who might not be successful in traditional and discipline-based science courses.

Stromick's project will be a lab and case study-based course that will allow students to use up-to-date technology and laboratory experiments to study specific nutrition related problems and issues that can have a direct impact on their lives.

The major goal of the project is to enhance achievement for classified students through development and implementation of a student-focused and result-oriented course. Since New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards will require students to take three science courses, the nutrition course envisioned by Stromick will give classified students another choice in courses to select while providing them with information that will teach them the lifelong benefits of good nutrition.

Stromick has taught for the past 20 years. Her principal, Dr. David L. Heisey, said, "Mrs. Stromick is a student-centered educator who is devoted to the profession. She designs lessons that actively engage students. She effectively communicates with parents and understands the importance of their involvement in a student's education."

"With the awarding of this fellowship, students will be the real winners."

The Christa A. McAuliffe Fellowship Program is a federal program that rewards teaching excellence in a variety of areas, including innovative programs, projects involving the business community, sharing of technology and staff development. The Department of Education administers the program in New Jersey.