



News Release

Contact: Martin Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, 517-241-4395
Bill Disessa, Spokesperson, 517-335-6649

MDE, MSU Collaboration Aims to Celebrate MI Teachers, Build Capacity

Grant funds aid in showcasing excellent educators, promoting professional growth

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LANSING – With the assistance of \$250,000 in federal grant funding, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has teamed up with Michigan State University’s Office of K-12 Outreach to shine a spotlight on the excellent work being done by educators in schools and districts across the state, as well as to provide learning opportunities to positively impact teachers’ professional growth.

“Our collaboration with Michigan State University is helping support our teaching professionals that sharpens the skills of our Proud Michigan Educators,” said Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles. “High quality teachers being at their best will improve student learning and help drive Michigan’s goal to become a Top 10 education state in 10 years.”

The latest video in the #proudMIeducator series, available at <https://youtu.be/ot2yACdANyo>, showcases an additional piece of the MDE/MSU collaboration – the Conscious Practitioner Summer Institute.

The video’s release today also coincides with national #LoveTeaching Week – a grassroots campaign started by National and State Teachers of the Year in 2015 as an opportunity to celebrate teaching, leading, and learning in a way that unites and invigorates educators and those they inspire all around the world.

This marks the fourth video of the 2018-19 season and provides an in-depth look at this incredible three-day learning opportunity attended by more than 100 educators on the MSU campus in July 2018.

The Conscious Practitioner Summer Institute was designed to give educators tools and strategies to think critically and engage deeply in matters of instruction and best practice. The agenda included discussions regarding education-related public policy initiatives; lessons on how coaching, instruction and crucial conversations play a role in being a conscious practitioner; as well as guidance on becoming a National Board Certified Teacher. The Institute already is showing signs of its impact with 10 of the 130 participants selected to begin the rigorous and prestigious National Board Certification process.

“Every child deserves a high-quality teacher and the Office of K-12 Outreach continues to provide support and technical assistance to educators across our state,” said Bryan Beverly, acting director for the office. “This has been a robust learning opportunity for teachers and administrators, and we remain committed to strengthening the ties between teaching and learning.”

The #proudMIeducator videos and Conscious Practitioner Summer Institute are part of a greater effort by MDE to recognize, celebrate, and enhance the work being done by the state’s educators as it works to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years.

To participate in the #proudMIeducator campaign, use the hashtag to celebrate the work of Proud Michigan Educators and Like/Follow MDE and the Office of Educator Excellence on social media:

- Facebook: @MichDeptEd and @MIEducator
- Twitter: @MIEducation and @MIEducator
- Instagram: @MiEducator
- YouTube: @michdepted

For more information, please visit michigan.gov/proudMIeducator or email Josh Roesner at roesnerjl@michigan.gov.

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