



Press Release

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Traverse City Public Schools Choir Teacher Focus of Latest #proudMIeducator Video

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LANSING – He connects with students and builds a community of learning. He is revered by faculty and students, alike. He is a Proud Michigan Educator.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in partnership with Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS), is releasing its latest #proudMIeducator video. The [video](#) highlights Erich Wangeman, the lead choir teacher at Traverse City West High School.

Described as both enthusiastic and patient, Wangeman is well-regarded for his ability to build rapport with his students, creating a positive learning community. This past school year, Traverse City West Middle and High School sent three choirs to perform at the prestigious Michigan Music Conference. Wangeman stresses to students to be the best artist they can be, and to really give themselves over to “the best art possible every day and every way.”

“We are fortunate to have so many outstanding teachers across Michigan, dedicated to helping students reach success,” State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice said. “Proud Michigan educators, like Mr. Wangeman, show us that teaching provides tremendous worth to our state; is a great profession in which to make an impact; and enriches the lives of both students and educators.”

The #proudMIeducator initiative is part of a greater effort by MDE to recognize and celebrate the state’s education workforce. Anyone can participate in the social media-driven campaign designed to shine a spotlight on those making a difference for students in schools and districts across the state – simply tag posts using the #proudMIeducator or #PME hashtags.

This month’s #proudMIeducator video is the 23rd in the campaign. All of the videos can be viewed [here](#).

To stay connected, be sure to like/follow both 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 about the #proudMIeducator campaign, including previous videos, visit www.michigan.gov/proudMIeducator or e-mail Josh Roesner at roesnerj1@michigan.gov.

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