

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
State Title I Office

2007 Caught in the Act Award Recipients

Caught in the Act Recipients

The Title I office has established an award entitled “Caught in the Act.” This award recognizes Title I staff who have been “caught in the act” of performing exceptional Title I services and are being honored for these outstanding acts. Four Title I personnel were recognized for this award: Carrie Grosz from the Bismarck Public School District, Debbe Poitra from the Belcourt Public School District, Kristen Hoime from the Adams-Edmore Public School District, and Betty Hanson from the West Fargo Public School District. These awards were also announced at the 2007 Title I Fall Workshop.

Carrie Grosz was recognized for the outstanding job she has done coordinating the Bismarck Public School District’s Title I homeless program. As a subprogram of Title I, districts are responsible for ensuring that homeless students who are struggling in school receive assistance to help them achieve. Under her purview, the Bismarck Public School District’s homeless program has grown to be a model of what homeless services should look like. Carrie truly goes above and beyond the requirements. Her efforts to coordinate with so many other agencies are truly commendable.



Debbe Poitra was recognized for the outstanding job she has done coordinating the Title I schoolwide and program improvement efforts at the Belcourt Public School District. There are numerous responsibilities for schools identified for improvement. We commend her efforts in working with the building principals to ensure that all applications and reports are completed and submitted to the state Title I office. Debbe’s assistance with program improvement and schoolwide efforts has increased the efficiency of the reporting process in the Belcourt Public School District’s Title I program.

Kristen Hoime was recognized for her dedication as an exemplary Title I teacher at the Adams-Edmore Public School District. It was evident from their monitoring submission last year that Adams-Edmore Public School District has a high quality Title I program. Kristen was also commended for serving as a Title I coordinator this year and sharing her expertise with the other Title I personnel within their district. The experience and knowledge she gained as a Reading First coach also contributes to the Title I program in the Adams-Edmore Public School District.



Laurie Matzke, Title I Director, with Kristen Hoime.



Laurie Matzke, Title I Director, with Betty Hanson.

Betty Hanson was recognized for her dedication as an exemplary Title I educator in the West Fargo Public School District. We commended her efforts in sharing her knowledge and expertise on RTI with other educators across the state. During our Title I monitoring visit, it was clear that exceptional practices occur on a regular basis at the Early Childhood Center. She has an exemplary Title I ELL program and goes above and beyond to reach out to parents through her home visits. We also recognized her efforts in coordinating West Fargo Public School District's Title I and CSR programs in the past.

As recipients of this award, these four educators each received a framed certificate and a grant award for \$2,500. These funds can be used for any allowable Title I expenditure for the Title I program in their school district.



From left to right, Caught in the Act Award recipients Carrie Grosz, Debbe Poitra, Kristen Hoime, and Betty Hanson.