

**North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
State Title I Office**

2007 Outstanding Title I Educator

Several years ago, the Title I office started an award called the Outstanding Title I Educator Award. We honored our first Outstanding Title I Educator in the fall of 1999.

There are so many dedicated, outstanding Title I personnel (teachers, administrators, aides, etc.) in North Dakota and this award provides an opportunity to honor at least one individual although we realize there are so many!



Outstanding Title I Educator
recipient, Mary Beth Swenson,
pictured with Laurie Matzke,
Title I Director.

The Department of Public Instruction, Title I office is pleased to announce that Mary Beth Swenson is the recipient of the 2007 Outstanding Title I Educator Award. Ms. Swenson is a Title I teacher at Saxvik Elementary School in the Bismarck Public School District. This award was announced at the 2007 Title I Fall Workshop held in October.

Mary Beth is a true mentor to other Title I teachers, a former member of the state Title I office's School Support Team, an active member of the North Dakota Reading Association (NDRA) and the local reading council, a member of the State Reading First Team, and is a frequent presenter for Title I events.

Nominees for the award were Title I educators who have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues and play an active and vital role in their school's Title I program. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction solicited nominations throughout the past year. The Title I Committee of Practitioners selected the award winner from the nominations received.

Mary Beth was described by those who nominated her as an educator who always goes above and beyond, is very strong in technology, is a visionary yet practical and realistic, has a strong commitment to her students, has an incredible work ethic, and has a love of children. We are so pleased to have Mary Beth represent North Dakota as our 2007-2008 Outstanding Title I Educator.

As a recipient of this award, Mary Beth received a plaque and a grant award for \$5,000. These funds can be used for any allowable Title I expenditure for the Title I program in her school district.