

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
State Title I Office

2008 Caught in the Act Award Recipients

Caught in the Act Recipients

The “Caught in the Act” 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. Three Title I personnel were recognized at the 2008 Title I Fall Conference for this award: Tara Johnson from the Bismarck Public School District, Sheri Scherbenske from the Kulm Public School District, and Antoinette Stith from the Fargo Public School District.



Caught in the Act Award recipients with Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent, and Laurie Matzke, Title I Director. From left to right, Tara Johnson, Sheri Scherbenske, and Antoinette Stith.

Tara Johnson was recognized for her efforts as the Bismarck Public School District’s Title I parent involvement coordinator. Parent involvement is a key component in the Title I law. Tara has coordinated many parent involvement activities and events in her role. Her position is critical in building a partnership between parents and schools. Tara’s assistance during the summer of 2008 with the parent involvement toolkit was instrumental in creating a valuable resource for North Dakota educators.

Sheri Scherbenske was recognized for the outstanding job she has done in establishing a Title I preschool program for Kulm Public School District. The research is clear in showing the benefits of high quality preschool programming to children as they are better prepared to begin kindergarten. It is especially challenging to implement a preschool program in a targeted assistance school, so her efforts are genuinely appreciated in that regard. Sheri is also appreciated for her willingness to share experiences and resources with other educators by presenting at our Title I Fall Conference.

Antoinette Stith was recognized for her dedication as an exemplary Title I educator for the Fargo Public School District and by sharing her time and talents with other educators through many state-sponsored projects. Educators have benefited from the presentations that Antoinette has conducted at several Title I events. Her efforts and valuable input on past Title I projects are truly appreciated. Antoinette also assisted during the summer of 2008 with creating the parent involvement toolkit.

As recipients of this award, these three educators each received a framed certificate and a grant award for \$5,000. These funds can be used for any allowable Title I expenditure for the Title I program in their school district.