



## Manchester Public Schools

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### **Manchester Public Schools Announces 'Teacher of the Year'**

(Manchester, CT—June 11, 2009) Manchester Public Schools announced its 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year at a morning reception. Mary Walsh, a teacher from The Elisabeth M. Bennet Academy will represent the district at the annual Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony sponsored by the Connecticut State Department of Education in the fall.

Walsh, who teaches sixth grade music, is a 24-year veteran of the profession. In a written statement Walsh wrote, "music possesses its own unique body of knowledge, skills and experiences which make it vital to a balanced education. The ability to perform, create and respond to music is the intimate expression of this life giving force and is an extraordinary vehicle for community building."

Walsh was selected by a district wide committee. The committee reviewed nominations from schools who previously selected their own Teachers of the Year. The following individuals were named Teachers of the Year at their school for the 2009-2010 school year: Kevin Brophy, Manchester High School; Tracy Clarke, Bowers Elementary School; Nola Barrett, Highland Park Elementary School; Colleen Bombria, Iling Middle School; Jennifer Jalbert, Keeney Elementary School; Linda Bride, Martin Elementary School; Jennifer Tyler, Nathan Hale Elementary School; Jodi Clare, Robertson Elementary School; Tom Nicholas, Bentley Academy; Michael Villandry, Manchester Regional Academy; Ann Curley, Washington Elementary School. and Margo Williamson, Buckley Elementary School.

"We are proud of all of our Teachers of the Year," said Dr. Kathleen M. Ouellette, superintendent of schools. "Our recipients represent the finest among our instructional staff. They are truly committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities to our students," Dr. Ouellette explained. "We want to wish Ms. Walsh the very best as she pursues the state's Teacher of the Year Award."

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