

2008 Massachusetts  
**Teacher of the Year**  
**Michael B. Flynn**



**CONTACT INFORMATION**

William E. Norris  
 Elementary  
 Southampton Public Schools  
 1-781-338-3635  
 mflynn.ward7@gmail.com



**Former Teachers of the Year**

- 2007 Jessie Auger, Boston
- 2006 Suzanne Wintle, Bolton
- 2005 Nancy Tyler-Schoen, Franklin
- 2004 Melinda Pellenin-Duck, Springfield
- 2003 Jeffrey Ryan, Reading
- 2002 Dawn McNair, Newton
- 2001 Marianne Moran, Methuen
- 2000 David Lussier, Andover
- 1999 Bruce Penniman, Amherst\*
- 1998 Mary Ginley, Longmeadow
- 1997 Leonard Swanton, Lexington
- 1996 Kathleen Sherman, Falmouth
- 1995 Jerry Howland, Boston\*
- 1994 Virginia Freymuth, Duxbury
- 1993 Steven Levy, Lexington
- 1992 Ronald Adams, Quincy
- 1991 Charles Sposato, Framingham
- 1990 Molly Murphy, Brookline
- 1989 Marjorie Montgomery, Newton
- 1988 James McDermott, Worcester
- 1987 Margot Desjardins, Westport
- 1986 Donna Viveiros, Fall River
- 1985 Francis Smith, Wayland
- 1984 Cathleen Hughes, Scituate
- 1983 Donald Pottle, Shrewsbury
- 1982 Joseph Kelly, Lexington
- 1981 Margaret Campbell, Longmeadow
- 1980 Marta Valdes, Boston
- 1979 Rita Croteau, Worcester
- 1978 Olive Craigwell, Boston
- 1977 Martin Badoian, Canton
- 1976 Barbara Boschert, Worcester
- 1975 no selection
- 1974 Thais Waldron, Reading\*
- 1973 Marcia Hayes, Boston
- 1972 Marcia Fowler, Ipswich
- 1971 Robert Anastas, Framingham
- 1970 Lucille Thimblin, Tantasqua Reg.
- 1969 Ruth Doorly, Westwood
- 1968 Neil Fitzgerald, New Bedford
- 1967 John Moulton, Brookline\*
- 1966 Leah Benway, Southwick
- 1965 Vivian Little, Hampden-Wilbraham
- 1964 Edna Penwarden, Arlington
- 1963 no selection
- 1962 Lottie Perry, Norton
- 1961 no selection
- 1960 Edward Frude, Shelburne Falls\*

\* National Teacher of the Year Finalist

**Michael B. Flynn**  
**William E. Norris Elementary**  
**Southampton**



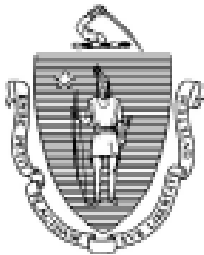
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MASSACHUSETTS  
 DEPARTMENT of  
 EDUCATION



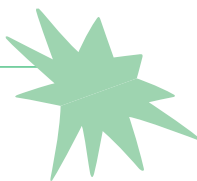
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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Education

350 Main Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148



June 21, 2007

Dear Friends,

Teaching is both an art and science; the most difficult, most rewarding and most important of careers. While all classroom teachers should be recognized on a daily basis, the National Teacher of the Year Program is the oldest and most prestigious awards program that focuses public attention annually on excellence in teaching. Since 1952, the national program has recognized and honored the contributions of classroom teachers by granting one outstanding teacher a year's paid sabbatical. During that year, the teacher travels the nation and meets with a wide variety of audiences to address educational issues. The National Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored by ING, is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers.

The Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Program is administered by the Massachusetts Department of Education in partnership with Hannaford Supermarkets. Each year the program honors a Massachusetts teacher who exemplifies fine teaching in the Commonwealth. The purpose of the program is to select a teacher who is worthy of speaking for and energizing the teaching profession, and representing the positive contributions of all teachers statewide. The Massachusetts Teacher of the Year automatically becomes the state's candidate for the National Teacher of the Year Program.

The selection process for the Massachusetts Teacher of the Year begins early in the calendar year with a call for nominations. An independent panel of experts, including past Teachers of the Year, reviewed written applications, interviewed 7 finalists, and recommended a candidate for my consideration for this year's honor.

I wish to thank the following corporations and organizations for supporting the 2008 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Program: Hannaford Supermarkets; Massachusetts Teachers Association; SMARTer Kids Foundation; Dr. Sandra Stotsky; Teacher Leadership Academy; and Verizon.

I am proud to present the 2008 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, **Michael B. Flynn**, of the William E. Norris Elementary School in Southampton. We wish him much energy and happiness in the year ahead.



Sincerely,



David P. Driscoll, Commissioner of Education

## Meet the 2008 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year

# Michael B. Flynn

William E. Norris Elementary School in Southampton

Michael Flynn teaches second grade at the William E. Norris Elementary School in Southampton. He is the proud father of four children and is an active member of his community.

Over the course of his ten years of teaching, Mike has worked to create a classroom environment that is enriching and inclusive. Students in his class engage in authentic learning experiences throughout the year like raising salmon to release in a local river or designing rockets launched by air pressure.

The highlight of Mike's classroom is the television show his class produces throughout the year. When they finish a unit of study, the students work in small groups to develop segments (skits, news reports, interviews, experiments, etc) highlighting what they have learned. The show is then played throughout the school and shared with families.

Mike has also established himself as a teacher leader by providing professional development on a wide range of topics including video production in the classroom, mathematics, and digital story telling. As a workshop leader for the math curriculum *Investigations in Number, Data, and Space*, Mike travels throughout the country leading weeklong workshops during the summer.

Mike has contributed ideas, suggestions, and written material that have been incorporated into the second edition of *Investigations in Number Data, and Space* as well as two Developing Mathematical Ideas modules: *Patterns, Functions, and Change* and *Reasoning Algebraically About Operations*. He is currently a contributing author to an edited collection and DVD set about mathematics instruction in inclusive classrooms to be published by Heinemann in 2009.



As an active member of his community, Mike serves as a school committee member and recreation commissioner for the city of Northampton. He is also a board member for the Northampton Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization that raises money and awards grants to teachers in the Northampton Public Schools.