





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Education

350 Main Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148

June, 2000

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 (co-sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and Scholastic Inc.) 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 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Program is administered by the Massachusetts Department of Education. 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 seven finalists, and made recommendations of the top candidates for my consideration for this year's honor.

I wish to thank the following corporations and organizations for supporting the Massachusetts Teacher of the Year 2000 Program: Bell Atlantic; the Boston Celtics; College Fund Division of UICI; J.L. Hammett Company; Massachusetts Teachers Association; Massachusetts Field Center for Teaching and Learning at UMASS/Boston Graduate College of Education; SMART Technologies, Inc.; Tom Snyder Productions; and Verizon Wireless.

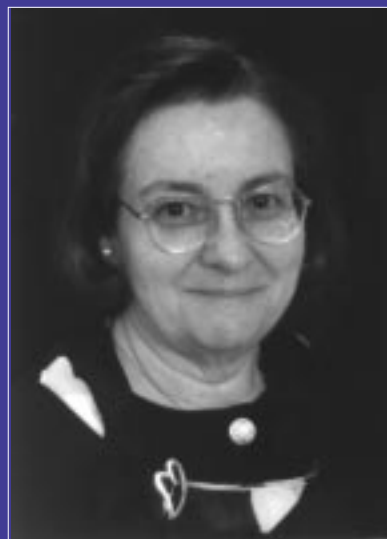
I am proud to present the 2001 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, **Marianne Vaughan Moran** of **Methuen High School**. We wish her much energy and success in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

David P. Driscoll  
Commissioner of Education

# Marianne Vaughan Moran

Methuen High School • Math and Science Teacher



Throughout her twenty-six year teaching career, Marianne Moran has taught middle school science, high school and college physics, college chemistry, AP physics, and high school mathematics. For the last five years, in her capacity as Mathematics Department Head at Methuen High School, Marianne has been intimately involved in education reform and curriculum revision. She has been active in realigning Methuen High School's mathematics curriculum to the State Math Frameworks.

Marianne was one of fifty teachers nationwide chosen to participate in a National Science Foundation program to write a high school physics curriculum based on the Modeling method pioneered by David Hestenes at Arizona State University. This curriculum has become a model for physics education reform at both the high school and college levels. She was invited to participate in the Modern Physics Institute for Teachers at Fermilab, the national accelerator facility in Batavia, IL, where she was involved in research on cosmic rays. Marianne also spent a summer as a Research Associate at M.I.T., and worked at their Bates Linear Accelerator facility in Middleton, Massachusetts, through a grant funded by the Department of Energy.

Believing life long learning is the key to success in the classroom, she has been active in Methuen's exemplary staff development program, and is committed to educational excellence and renewal through professional development. Marianne holds all her students to high standards, and works with each student to help them achieve that goal. Her classes are fast-paced and upbeat, frequently involving cooperative methods and student presentations. She has been proactive in the area of informal classroom assessment, and is particularly interested in the use of "whiteboards" in student presentations as assessment techniques. In one project, her class designed an experiment for determining the distance across "Ranger Lake," a small pond on campus, as a means of reinforcing trigonometric concepts involved in measurement. The students then ran the activity, and presented both design and results to their colleagues. Marianne has also been active in infusing technology into the mathematics and science curriculum.

An active member of the New England section of the American Association of Physics Teachers, she served as their newsletter editor for three years. She is also a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and is active in the Merrimack Valley Mathematics Caucus.

Marianne graduated from Stonehill College with a B.S. in Chemistry, and has an M.A.T. from Salem State College. Previous to entering the teaching profession, Marianne worked as a chemist-statistician for the renowned Framingham Heart Program. She will be available on a limited basis to consult with school districts and teacher preparation programs.

## CONSULTATION TOPICS

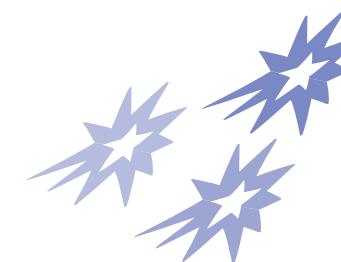


**Alternative Assessment in Mathematics and Science**

**Infusing Technology into the Curriculum**

**Addressing Diversity and Learning Styles in the Classroom**

**Teaching Math and Science in the Block**



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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