



The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. Therefore, the Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program, was created to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight exceptional teachers, teacher specialists, and school leaders who exemplify Louisiana's education profession. We invite you to recommend distinguished classroom teachers, specialists, assistant principals and/or principals who have demonstrated all of the following:

1. Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective and innovative instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school;
2. Exemplary educational accomplishments and leadership beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession;
3. Individuals whose contributions to education are largely unheralded yet worthy of the spotlight;
4. Early- to mid-career educators (minimum of five years) who offer strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and
5. Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community.

**THIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL PROCESS. INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT BE AWARE OF THIS RECOMMENDATION.**

**Recommender's Information**

First Name: Principal

Last Name: ABC

Email Address: principalABC@school.org

Phone Number (Preferably cell): 222-222-2222

Your relation to the Candidate (Supervisor, Colleague, Parent, Other): Supervisor

If you selected other, please specify:

How long have you known the candidate? 4 years

**Candidate's Information**

First Name: TEACHER

Last Name: ABC

Candidate's School System Name: Lagniappe Parish

Candidate's Number of Years in the School System: 6 years

Candidate's School Name: Lagniappe High School

Candidate's School Address: 1234 Lagniappe Dr.

Candidate's School Phone Number: 333-333-3333

Candidate's School Fax Number: 444-444-4444

Candidate's Grade Level(s): 9th and 10th Grade

The Candidate is which of the Following:

Teacher

Specialist

Assistant Principal

Principal

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

If Candidate is a Teacher, Select Subject Area (Check all that apply for current school year):

Reading/English/Language Arts     Science     Mathematics  
 Social Studies     Fine Arts  
 Foreign Language (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Ethnicity:

White     Black or African American  
 Asian     Native American Indian or Alaska Native  
 Hispanic or Latino     Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
 Two or More Races     Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Candidate's Education Information

List the College/University Where the Candidate Got Their Degree(s) as well as the Year the Degree Was Obtained. View that information here- <https://www.teachlouisiana.net/teachers.aspx?PageID=416>:

Degree	College/University	Year
Bachelor	Louisiana State University	2013
Master	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	2015
Specialist		
Doctorate		

List where the teacher completed their teacher preparation program: Louisiana State University

### References

As a part of the application review process for the Exemplary Educator Award, reference checks may be completed for nominated candidates. As a nominator, you are already serving as a reference for your nominee. Using the form below, please list three (3) additional points of contact who can serve as professional references for the candidate in support of their candidacy.

- References should be individuals who have recent experience working directly with the nominee in a professional capacity; and
- If you are not the direct supervisor of the candidate you are nominating, please ensure that the nominee's direct supervisor is listed as one of the three references below.

Prefix	First and Last Name	Title	Phone Number	Email
Dr.	Reference One	Supervisor of Secondary Education	555-555-5555	referenceone@schoolsystem.org
Mr.	Reference Two	English Department Head	444-444-4444	referencetwo@school.org
Ms.	Reference Three	Data Manager	444-444-4444	referencethree@school.org

### Ratings and Responses

Rate the educator from 1-10 (10 being highest) on numbers 1 through 4 and provide a paragraph(s) to explain your rating. Be detailed and thorough, with examples whenever possible.

1. Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective instructional and innovative practices and student learning results in the classroom and school.

Rating: 10

Explanation:

Every time I have visited TEACHER's classroom, including his virtual classroom over the last several months, I am in awe of his endless contagious enthusiasm. TEACHER is a thoughtful and creative educator. When TEACHER leads his class, it is purposeful; when students respond, he doesn't shut them down, but instead asks follow up questions: "Why?" "What do you mean by that?" -- encouraging students to work on walking through their thought process, so that he can both praise them for what is being done correctly and help them troubleshoot where they have made any missteps. This invitation to explore their process helps them see that math isn't just about the right answer. It's not about memorizing procedures. It's about understanding. TEACHER doesn't teach his students to cross multiply; instead, he teaches students to understand that multiplying any number by a fraction equal to one does not change the value of the original number. He gives students time to think, and while TEACHER runs his class with a sense of urgency, it is never at the expense of giving students time to process. TEACHER creates a collaborative and joyful classroom culture, one where students work together to find solutions. I have seen his Geometry class on the floor of his room assembling proofs with giant pieces of paper. This effort to keep students engaged did not end when we switched to virtual learning. When faced with how to track and engage students on Zoom, he figured out how to export chat and auto populate a spreadsheet to track student contributions. TEACHER is always looking to improve and open minded to new ideas. He has successfully implemented student feedback which he regularly seeks, allowing himself to model the same discovery learning with himself as he does with his students.

2. Exemplary educational accomplishments and leadership beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession. Include committees, mentoring, news items, publications, presentations.

Rating: 10

Explanation:

TEACHER was elected by his department to serve as department chairperson for the last two years. In this capacity, he meets with the Leadership team bi-monthly through which I have witnessed his courage and ethical leadership. He has courage to speak up for students and ideals even when his positions are not popular. He has shown courage in coaching and guiding teachers in his department. As a member of the Leadership team, he has consistently demonstrated his commitment to advancing equality and directed resources to families in need. This year I have had several discussions with TEACHER about students that struggle in Algebra I and how to help these students be successful. Out of these discussions we have formulated our own credit recovery program to be launched this summer. TEACHER has agreed to teach this course, and I cannot think of a better teacher for these students and this course.

In the fall of 2019, TEACHER designed, promoted and launched a school open-access food pantry. The purpose of the food pantry was to create a discrete way for students in need to access donations of food, personal hygiene items, and clothing. TEACHER not only was the inspiration for the creation of the pantry but also followed through with the necessary steps to bring the idea into fruition. This combination of moral leadership and attention to details makes TEACHER an excellent leader and a natural fit for school leadership positions in the future.

3. Strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership including teacher leadership, mentoring. Predict the educator's potential to remain in education for at least 25 more years and demonstrate and increase leadership impact in the profession.

Rating: 10

Explanation:

TEACHER is a school leader in educational technology. He is constantly learning about new tools and then teaching other members of the school how to use these technologies in the classroom. When teachers try new technology and have questions, even though we have an IT department, teachers turn to TEACHER with questions. This year more than ever he has been essential to the successful implementation of virtual classrooms across the school.

The 2020-21 school year was unlike any other with exceptional challenges to learning presented by the pandemic. Recognizing that some students did not learn as effectively this past school year, TEACHER spearheaded the creation and implementation of a summer enrichment program open to all students for the summer of 2021. TEACHER reached out to an online provider he had worked with before, weighed the advantages and disadvantages of several different options, arranged for payment and set up student passwords and logins. He almost single-handedly rolled out a platform for student remediation and enrichment for students to build confidence in ELA and Math skills for the summer of 2021.

TEACHER is a committed educator with a passion for students and his community. I envision him as a teacher and school leader for the entirety of his professional career. I sincerely hope he continues to work at Lagniappe High School because he brings so much positive impact to the school. He will be an outstanding asset to any educational institution.

4. Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community. Do students perform at higher levels due to the educator, pursue certain careers, credit their success to the educator, etc.?

Rating: 10

Explanation:

I have never worked with a more inspirational and enthusiastic educator than TEACHER in my 30 years of education. I am at times in awe of his energy level that he brings to all of his endeavors. In the classroom, in a meeting with his colleagues, in a staff PD meeting, or at a school-wide pep rally TEACHER is able to fully present, focused at the task at hand and positive. His energy and passion is contagious, and he makes the whole school better.

When testing approaches, TEACHER knows that for some of his students it is their first high stakes testing experience and for all his other students, it can still be a daunting experience. He refuses to let students leave his room with those nerves, covering his room in inspirational quotes. He then stands on his desk, channeling Robin Williams in *Dead Poets Society*, motivating his students to believe in themselves. As they leave his room, he has them jump up and high five a sign that simply says, "Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do." (Spock)

**A bulleted list is fine for the items below:**

Cite evidence of student achievement gains as a result of the educator's practices, *even if from a previous year*:

- For multiple years (2016-18), TEACHER's VAM Geometry scores were above 95%.
- Despite COVID shutting down our in-person instruction in March 2020, 83.3% of TEACHER's students earned a credit-bearing score on the AP Calculus exam during the May 2020 AP Exam administration. Students earned a mean score of 3.75 -- surpassing our school, state, and global average, and 33% of students earned the highest possible score on the exam.

Cite awards the educator has received:

- Lagniappe High School Teacher of the Year, 2020-2021
- Cox Teacher of the Week (October 2017)

**Uploads to the Portal:**

- Upload the Candidate's Resume
  - Note: Do not ask the candidate for their resume, as this is a confidential recommendation. You may create a simple resume as a bulleted list of employment history.
- Upload Letter of Recommendation (Optional)
  - This may be uploaded as a PDF.
- Upload Exemplary Educator Recommendation Form
  - Please upload as a Word document and not as a PDF

Questions: [ExemplaryEducator@la.gov](mailto:ExemplaryEducator@la.gov)