KEITH MILES OF OXON HILL HIGH SCHOOL NAMED PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Keith Miles, biology teacher at Oxon Hill High School, has been named the 2010-2011 Prince George’s County Teacher of the Year. The announcement was made last night during the Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) Teacher of the Year Reception at the Newton White Mansion in Mitchellville, Maryland. Miles had been named a semifinalist for the same honor in 2009.

“I am proud of all 27 of the outstanding educators who were nominated for the 2010 Prince George’s County Teacher of the Year,” said Board Chair Verjeana M. Jacobs, Esq. “These teachers represent the best and brightest, going above and beyond in the classroom to ensure students master the content and learn the skills they need for success in the future.”

Miles truly embodies the term “life-long learner.” Miles earned a dual bachelor’s degree in Biology and Spanish Language and Literature from George Washington University, earned his teaching certificate as a resident teacher, and went on to earn a master’s degree in Life Sciences and a post-master’s certificate in Professional Teaching Standards. He is currently seeking a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, while simultaneously pursuing National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

“Having effective teachers in our classrooms who model a passion for learning is a winning combination for success in raising academic achievement,” said Dr. William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent of Schools. “I congratulate Mr. Miles as our new Teacher of Year, and commend all our nominees for their outstanding service to the students of Prince George’s County.”

Miles currently teaches Biology, Genetics, and Spanish I to tenth-grade students at Oxon Hill High School, where he has been a teacher for the past seven years. Designated as a “Master Teacher,” he has also taught Biology to Crossland High School students, and Mathematics to English Language Learner (ELL) students at Isaac J. Gourdine Middle School.
His peers at Oxon Hill High School nominated him as Teacher of the Year for his dedication, professionalism, leadership skills, and commitment to education. Taking an active role outside of the classroom, Miles is a presenter for new teacher workshops in biology and the Prince George’s County Public Schools’ Professional Educators Induction Program (PEIP), presents at Saturday School Improvement Workshops, acts as a facilitator for Biology Praxis reviews, is a Job-Alike Mentor, and provides professional development for his peers at Oxon Hill.

“Mr. Miles is committed to academic excellence, instruction, and student success,” said principal Jean-Paul Cadet, Ed.D. “He continually models the highest level of excellence in all he does. His professional background in educational policies and procedures, administrative leadership skills, and human relations skills have been paramount in his success as a school leader. His time with students before and after school providing remediation, mentoring, and academic enrichment is when his dedication is most profound.”

Additionally, Miles is a mentor for the Minority Student Pipeline partnership with Bowie State University, working with the program to increase the number of minority students who enroll in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs in college. For his efforts, Miles was named finalist for the Tech Council of Maryland’s STEM Educator of the Year in 2009.

Miles will go on to compete with representatives from all 24 counties for the title of 2010-2011 Maryland Teacher of the Year, a competition coordinated by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). A peer committee will select the finalists, and the winner of the Maryland Teacher of the Year will be announced during a ceremony in the fall. The winner will represent Maryland in the national competition.

The following 26 Prince George’s County Public Schools teachers were also nominated for Prince George’s County Teacher of the Year, with seven, besides Miles, being selected as semifinalists (indicated by names in bold):

- Brian Adkins, Oxon Hill HS
- Loma Bergen, J. Frank Dent ES
- Kathryn Cobb, Vansville ES
- Wallace Conner, Bladensburg HS
- Edward Cowan, Frederick Douglass HS
- Valerie Dent, Surrattsville HS
- Kanika Dorsey, Ernest Everett Just MS
- Tiffany Doster, James Ryder Randall ES
- Paulette Gaines, Surrattsville HS
- Sharon Johnsen, Baden ES
- Dianne Kasten, Valley View ES
- Jhanna Levin, Calverton ES
- Leelannee Malin, Largo HS
- Nancy Meyers, Carole Highlands ES
- Helda Morad, Cesar Chavez ES
- La Keisha Ratliff, Benjamin Foulois
- Allison Richo, Oxon Hill HS
- Rebecca Roland, Riverdale ES
- Kathy Russell, Rose Valley ES
- Michelle Spence, Green Valley Academy
- Tamala Stuckey, Cool Spring ES
- Marcia Sun, Cherokee Lane ES
- Kiesha Tate, Tayac Academy
- Brian Walton, Gwynn Park MS
- Brian Weeks, Greenbelt ES
- Nancy Wood, Carole Highlands ES

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