

# Professional Standards Council for Teachers

## Teacher Excellence Recognition Programs in Wisconsin and Beyond

Jacob Hollnagel

Education Consultant

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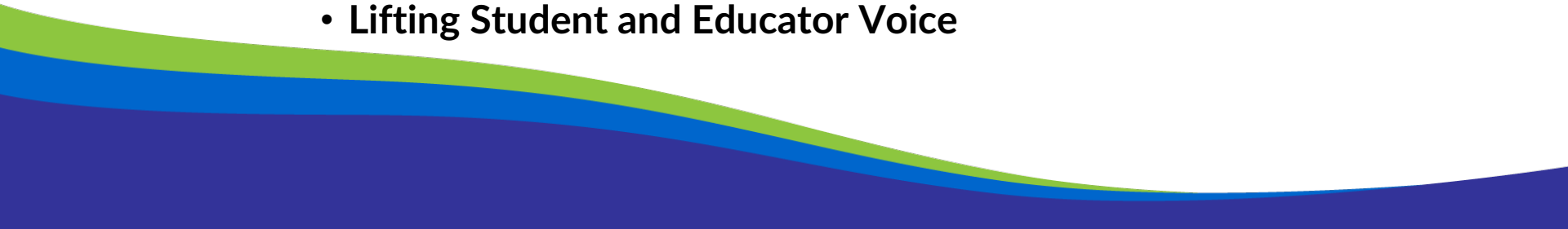
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
**Public Instruction**  
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

# Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Review Wisconsin programs
- Review some other states' programs
- Reflect on teacher recognition in Wisconsin with this context

# Teaching Excellence Themes

Examples discussed at the last meeting elicited the following themes:

- Recognition
  - Infrastructure
  - Sustaining Supports
  - Practices to Promote
  - Lifting Student and Educator Voice
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# Wisconsin Recognition Programs

- Wisconsin Teachers of the Year
- Herb Kohl Teacher Fellowship Program
- Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching
- Wisconsin Master Educator Assessment Process and Grants



ATTRACT  
PREPARE



RECRUIT  
LICENSE



DEVELOP  
RETAIN



# Wisconsin Teachers of the Year

- 5 teachers selected annually, representing elementary, middle, and high schools and special services from Kohl Fellows
- DPI convenes selection committee that interviews candidates
- Serve as representatives of teaching and public education
- One teacher of the year selected to represent WI in national Teacher of the Year Program
- <https://dpi.wi.gov/teacher-year>

# Herb Kohl Teacher Fellowship

- 100 PK-12 teachers (public and private) annually
- Nominated by community; no self-nomination
- \$6,000 personal grant and matching grant to school
- Pool of public school Kohl fellows become candidate pool for WI Teacher of the Year program
- <https://www.kohleducation.org/teacherfellowship/>

# Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching


- Science, Math public and private teachers in K-12 (alternating K-6 or 7-12 annually)
- Nominated by the public or self
- Signed presidential award and \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation
- National Math and Science Teachers of the Year
- <https://dpi.wi.gov/cal/presidential-awards>




# Wisconsin Master Educator Assessment Process and Grants

- Complete a rigorous assessment process (National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or WMEAP) and (qualify to) hold a lifetime license in their area.
- Qualify for reimbursement grant of \$2,000
- Eligible for annual \$2,500 (\$5,000 if in high-poverty school) grant if maintaining Master Licensure and Wisconsin school employment
- <https://dpi.wi.gov/licensing/apply-educator-license/master-educator>

# In summary...

- **What's popping out?**
  - **What could be improved?**
  - **Where is there room to grow?**
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# Other States' Recognition Programs

- **North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) Empower Beginning Teacher of the Year**
  - **Wyoming K-12 Digital Learning Awards**
  - **Kansas Exemplary Educator Pool Award**
  - **Various Wisconsin professional organization programs**
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# NCCAT Empower Beginning Teacher of the Year


- Partnership program among North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, the state education agencies, and other partners
- Highlight excellent practice among new and early career teachers
- \$5,000 cash prize (\$2,000 runner-up), “GoGlobal NC” trip, and instructional supplies for awardee’s school
- Finalists participate with NCCAT to promote teaching excellence
- <https://www.nccat.org/node/2996>

# Wyoming K-12 Digital Learning Awards

- Acknowledges educators “utilizing new and innovative ways to incorporate digital learning into their work.”
- The program provides a blurb on the website about some of the year’s awardees.
- Link: <https://edu.wyoming.gov/educators/teachers/educator-awards/#K-12%20Digital%20Learning%20Awards>



# Kansas Exemplary Educator Pool

- Identifies outstanding performing educators in mid-career (must > 5 years and < 18 years of experience)
  - Seeks to identify “unheralded, yet worthy of the spotlight” educators.
  - Potentially identifies these educators for future more prestigious state or national recognition.
  - <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/Communications-and-Recognition-Programs/Kansas-Exemplary-Educator-Talent-Pool>
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