

MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:		April 2019	
RECOGNITION OF STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS			
STATUTORY AUTHORITY:		<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent Item
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Item
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Report Item
STRATEGIC PRIORITY			
Efficiency and Effectiveness – Create an internal environment of continuous improvement, effective programming, and efficient business operations.			
Employees of the Month:			
<p>Leon Busdieker, director of Agriculture (ag), Food and Natural Resources in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (DESE) Office of College and Career Readiness (OCCR), was named the February 2019 Employee of the Month. “It’s great to be recognized for the work that you do, especially when nominated by one of your peers,” said Busdieker. He added that getting to spend his days with a group of extremely talented and dedicated individuals is his favorite part of the job. “Leon serves as a wealth of knowledge, a voice of reason, and a supportive colleague to all he comes in contact with,” said his nominator, Shelly Wehmeyer. “He is always available to listen, give advice, and share resources with others.” Busdieker has been with DESE for 13 years. His primary responsibilities are to direct agricultural education programming within OCCR, which he said is very rewarding. “The work you do positively impacts thousands of ag education students in every corner of the state,” he said. “He truly is a role model in the Department, and I am proud to serve on the DESE/OCCR/Career Technical Education team with him,” said Wehmeyer. “He is most deserving of this award.” Busdieker grew up on a small family farm in western St. Charles County and now lives in Lincoln County. “My wife, Pam, is a retired teacher,” said Busdieker. “We have two married daughters and two grandchildren.” When not serving DESE or helping out with the family farming operation, Busdieker likes spending time working on projects in his wood shop.</p>			
<p>Lisa Scroggs, assistant director, English language arts, in the Office of College and Career Readiness (OCCR), was named the March 2019 Employee of the Month. She joined DESE in June 2016. “While I am humbled by this recognition, what has true meaning to me is being a part of the DESE family,” Lisa said. “When I retired after 31 years of teaching and accepted the position in DESE’s Office of College and Career Readiness, I wondered if I would ever develop the family and friend relationships I had with colleagues during my teaching days. I am happy to say that I truly feel among family and friends here at DESE, both within and beyond OCCR.” “Lisa goes out of her way to provide customer service to the school districts of Missouri either by phone, email or in person,” said her nominator, Margie Hagenhoff. “Her prompt response to their questions or concerns helps to foster a positive relationship between DESE and our educators.” My favorite part of the work I do is collaborating with my OCCR colleagues and spending time with educators on developing practical, effective strategies for instruction that will help teachers meet the rigor of the Missouri Learning Standards,” said Lisa. Lisa was born in Waco, Texas and grew up traveling the United States in an Air Force family. She now lives in</p>			

Jefferson City with her husband Brad, who also works for the department. They have two grown sons, Cole (25) and Kyle (24), and a 17 year old dachshund named Oscar. When not serving the Department, Lisa enjoys watching Cardinals baseball and Blues hockey, spending time in San Antonio and the Texas Hill Country, and riding bikes on the Katy Trail with Brad.

5 Years of Service – 23

Kathleen Audrain, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Cami Bowman, Educator Quality*
 Candice Bradford, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Kaylie Buechter, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Anna Doke, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Carrie Ernst, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Kevin Gorsage, Financial and Administrative Services*
 Crystal Harley, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Diane Herx, Quality Schools*
 Allison Humphrey, Missouri School for the Blind
 Lindsey Liontas, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Justin Lucas, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Cynthia Miller, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Tiffani Muessig, Special Education*
 Atina Peitzmeier, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Christopher Rowland, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Autumn Smith, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Kristin Snyder, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Russell Stegeman, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Cari Thuli, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Tracy Wilkowski, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Ronald Williams, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Jonah Wilson, Missouri School for the Deaf

10 Years of Service – 13

Eileen Belton, Missouri Assistive Technology
 Karen Dean, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Heather Dunn, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Barry Elbasani, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Amy Halderman, Financial and Administrative Services*
 Doris Knapp, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Tina Lawson, Special Education
 Annie Lorenz, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Sharon Mcelhaney, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Miye Minor, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Marlo Newman, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Vanessa Pruitt-Smith, Missouri School for the Blind
 Heather Romine, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

15 Years of Service – 2

Tom Robbins, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Geri Spears, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

20 Years of Service - 10

Monica Bax, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Deloris Briscoe, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Melinda Cole, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Sharon Falter, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Pat Kaiser, Financial and Administrative Services*
 Jennifer Kenkel, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Diane Lindsay, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Andy Martin, Financial and Administrative Services*
 Teresa Meyer, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Keven Worthington, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

25 Years of Service - 5

Donna Jean Cash, Quality Schools*
 Denise Charlton, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Kelli Dickey, Commissioner's Office*
 Marie Diederich, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Dianna Schreier, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

* = Jefferson City Based Staff

DIVISION	TOTAL NUMBER OF AWARDS
Adult Learning & Rehabilitation Services	23
Commissioner	1
Educator Quality	1
Financial & Administrative Services	4
Missouri Assistive Technology	1
Missouri School for the Blind	2
Missouri School for the Deaf	4
Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled	13
Quality Schools	2
Special Education	2
TOTAL	53