

RECOGNITION OF STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:Consent
ItemAction
ItemReport
Item**DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 4:**

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will improve departmental efficiency and operational effectiveness.

Employee of the Month

The Department's October Employee of the Month was Leone Herring, Supervisor, Family and Consumer Sciences & Human Services, Office of College and Career Readiness. Leone was nominated for the award by Cynthia Arendt, section director. "Leone loves a challenge and she loves to learn. She is an excellent problem solver and sees a problem as a challenge. She has a great can-do attitude and when given a task, she always takes it to the next level. She is always looking to improve programs and services to our customers," Cynthia said in the written nomination. Leone's assignments include Curriculum Development; the ProStart Culinary Program; FCCLA Culinary State Competition; liaison to Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFACS); and coordinator for the Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS Professional Development Conference. "I have been with DESE for six years and have had the opportunity to work with many talented, hard working people throughout the department," Leone said. "I feel very fortunate and honored to be the October Employee of the Month."

Melia Franklin, Director of English language arts, Office of College and Career Readiness, was selected as the November Employee of the Month. Melia was nominated by co-workers, Margie Hagenhoff and Michael Muenks. "Melia is a team player and always willing to offer assistance. She brings a positive attitude, a friendly smile, and her best foot forward with her to work each day. Melia has extensive experience with all aspects of the Missouri Assessment Program which makes her an invaluable asset to our section. She goes above and beyond the demands of her job and it is a pleasure working with her," they said in the written nomination. Melia assists schools and teachers as they develop curriculum to align with standards and review current literature on curriculum and assessment. She also serves as a liaison for the state of Missouri to groups such as the Council of Chief School State Officers and Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. "Being employee of the month is a great honor," said Franklin. "When one works in a section filled with terrifically talented people, it's easy to look good. There are a lot of folks pulling oars to propel the Office of College and Career Readiness forward. I am fortunate to be placed in front of an oar that I feel absolutely passionate about, English education."

December Employee of the Month, Diane Siebeneck, serves as a human resource analyst for the Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled (MSSD), Office of Special Education. "Diane was nominated because she displays a high level of dedication to her job at MSSD," said co-worker Emily Long, who nominated Diane for the award. "She has a passion for attention to detail and accuracy. Diane has an exceptional skill at relating to and working with employees out in the schools." As a human resources analyst, Diane processes new hires and terminations, and makes salary changes to State School staff. She also assists area offices and the Central Office with entry of time and leave. "Diane contributes to the achievement of the mission of MSSD by freely giving of her time and effort above and

beyond that which the job demands. For example, Diane worked late in order for the Extended School Year to be ready in time,” Emily stated in the written nomination form. “It’s always nice to know you are appreciated and it is a special honor to be named employee of the month,” said Siebeneck.

5 Years of Service – 13

Erika Brandl, Early and Extended Learning*
 Kristin Donze, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Sandra Hughey, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Joy Hughey, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Chyrisse Lenard, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Andrew Linkon, College and Career Readiness*
 Bridgette Long-McClelland, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Rachael Marler, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Lisa Meisenheimer, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Jennifer Moreland, Special Education*
 Sharon Sawyer, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Adriane Stamper, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Nancy Strothmann, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

10 Years of Service – 7

Yvonne Ali, Missouri School for the Blind
 Lisa Beeman, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Karen Burkhead, Missouri School for the Blind
 Georgeta Dacila, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Tosha Drew, Missouri School for the Blind
 Michael Stieber, Missouri School for the Deaf
 John Underwood, Financial and Administrative Services*

15 Years of Service – 15

Anthony Bosman, Missouri School for the Blind
 Deanna Crocker, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Toni Dautenhahn, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Joyce Dignan, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Bradley Drew, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Ellen Erkenbrack, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 William Gerling, College and Career Readiness*
 Alecia Glore, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 James Higgins, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Shelley Kiesling, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Sharon Loveland, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
 Kristen Morrow, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Diane Siebeneck, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled*
 Donna Warren, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Jackie Wieberg, Quality Schools*

20 Years of Service – 11

Kaye Bertels, Quality Schools*
 Debra Clink, Financial and Administrative Services*
 Tracy Cooper, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Sandra Fleming, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Ellen Hager, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Carol Halsne, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Tina Jackson, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Virginia Keller, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Mary O'Bannon, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Michael Schiffner, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Karen Surface, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

25 Years of Service – 6

Cynthia Arendt, College and Career Readiness*
 Patty Atterberry, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Elaine Bryan, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*
 Clara Essner, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Margee Iles, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled
 Pamela Sybert, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

30 Years of Service – 2

Joan Carrington, Missouri School for the Deaf
 Leslie Garcia, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

* = Jefferson City Based Staff

DIVISION	TOTAL NUMBER OF AWARDS
Adult Learning & Rehabilitation Services	17
College and Career Readiness	3
Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing	0
Commissioner	0
Data System Management	0
Early and Extended Learning	1
Educator Quality	0
Financial & Administrative Services	2
Missouri School for the Blind	4
Missouri School for the Deaf	6
Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled	18
Quality Schools	2
Special Education	1
TOTAL	54