

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:****April 2015**

## RECOGNITION OF STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Consent Item     Action Item     Report Item

## DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 4:

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

**Employees of the Month**

Laura Wheeler, an administrative assistant with the Department's Disability Determinations section in Springfield, Missouri, was named the February Employee of the Month. "Laura does the work of a small army all by herself, and does so without complaint. Her positive attitude, rock-hard work ethic, and bright personality are so refreshing every day," state her nomination form. "I do a little of everything. From performing case assignments and control procedures, training and assigning work to all clerical staff, ordering office supplies, assisting and answering questions regarding payments of medical records from vendors, and providing backup to the Computer Information Technician," said Wheeler. "It is a great honor to be selected." Laura has been with the Department for five years, and she said her coworkers are her favorite part of her job. "I work with a great group of people," she said. "The most challenging aspect of my job is juggling all of my responsibilities," said Wheeler. "Often there are not enough hours in the day to complete everything." "Laura truly deserves to be recognized for all the extras she does around the office; she is such an exemplary example of a hardworking and kind-hearted staff member," said her nominator.

Brenda Rush, a Procurement Specialist with the Department's Office of Quality Schools, has been named the March Employee of the Month. "Brenda represents the personification of the ideal employee," said her nominator. "She is always ready and willing to help ensure that the Office of Quality Schools staff has what they need to continue to improve education for schools and districts." "It is an honor to be named Employee of the Month," said Rush. "To have co-workers acknowledge that you are doing a great job is very gratifying." Rush said working with the DESE staff is her favorite part of her job. "We have great people who work at DESE," she said. Brenda has been with the Department for more than 30 years, and her nominator said, "Her attitude is consistently positive, determined, and she is successful in overcoming the greatest of challenges on the job." Brenda spends a lot of time every day answering calls from the school districts and parents. "This can be challenging," she said, "but being able to assist and help them find the answers to their situations can be the most rewarding." "Brenda's kindness and attention to client needs are witnessed daily by her relentless pursuit of helpful answers," said her nominator.

**5 Years of Service – 12**

Shane Boldt, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
Michelle Clark, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
Catherine Cross, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
Elizabeth Dauber, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

Tonya Holloway, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Rose McCrary, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Toby McFarlin, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Teresa Morgan, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Brenda Moss, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Patty Sutton, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Sheryl Toole-Bowles, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services\*  
 Lorraine Wiggs, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

### **10 Years of Service – 8**

Melissa Gallop, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Sherryl Lococo, Missouri School for the Deaf  
 Joyce Moon, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Audra Noel, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Victoria Purvis, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Debra Seiberlich, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Kathy Siebert, College and Career Readiness\*  
 Monica Silvey, College and Career Readiness\*

### **15 Years of Service – 11**

Eric Bader, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Debbie Burnaman, Missouri School for the Deaf  
 Arki Collins, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Kyle Heislen, Quality Schools\*  
 Bryan Howard, Financial and Administrative Services\*  
 Laura Jackson, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Diana Jones, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Tammy Jones, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Kelly Kempker, Quality Schools\*  
 Mary Pratt, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Beverly Shively, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

### **20 Years of Service – 13**

Julie Arnold, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Stepheny Bath, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Lucille Blackwell, Missouri School for the Deaf  
 Bruce Bryan, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Robin Cachero, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Janet Childers, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Cheryl Doza, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Starla Duncan, Data Systems Management\*  
 Debra Holloway, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Belinda Morrow, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Joel Stephenson, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services\*  
 Teresa Townsend, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Sheila Woolard, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

**25 Years of Service – 4**

Veronica Hoxworth, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Gloria Newman, Missouri School for the Blind  
 Laura Rice, Missouri School for the Deaf  
 Pamela Robertson, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

**30 Years of Service – 4**

Claire Beck, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Rosalie Donaldson, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled  
 Tonya Fambro, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services\*  
 Peggy Robinson, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

**35 Years of Service – 2**

Kathy Julius, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services  
 Carla Young, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services

**40 Years of Service – 1**

Hermetta Beck, Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services\*

\* = Jefferson City Based Staff

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF AWARDS</b>
Adult Learning & Rehabilitation Services	15
College and Career Readiness	2
Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing	0
Commissioner	0
Data System Management	1
Early and Extended Learning	0
Educator Quality	0
Financial & Administrative Services	1
Missouri School for the Blind	1
Missouri School for the Deaf	4
Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled	29
Quality Schools	2
Special Education	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>