



## Harford County Public Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### LISA MULLEN NAMED MD TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALIST

*Veteran North Harford teacher one of seven to compete for state title*



Lisa C. Mullen, language arts teacher at North Harford Middle School, was selected by State Superintendent of Schools, Nancy S. Grasmick, as one of seven finalists in the state who will compete for the 2011 Maryland Teacher of the Year title.

The finalists were selected by a panel of judges from various Maryland educational organizations representing principals, teachers, boards of education, teacher unions, students, parents and higher education. Finalists were measured against a rigorous set of national criteria that includes teaching philosophy, community involvement, knowledge of general education issues and suggestions for professional and instructional improvement. Each of the seven finalists, including Ms. Mullen, will participate in oral interviews with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) on Saturday, September 11th.

“Ms. Mullen is dedicated to enriching the lives of each student that walks through her classroom door and is passionate about providing a positive learning experience for our students,” said Superintendent Robert M. Tomback. “Ms. Mullen is the epitome of a talented and dedicated educator and we are extremely proud to have her represent all Harford County teachers at the state level.”

The daughter of a professor and a poet, Ms. Mullen’s parents influenced her decision to become an educator. She is a dedicated teacher, having been in the field for more than 22 years, serving in Harford County for 18 of those years, using creative tactics to ensure that each student is able to learn.

Ms. Mullen earned her master’s (4.0 GPA) in Leadership in Teaching from the College of Notre Dame where her thesis was accepted with honor, and she received the Academic Achievement Award for Leadership in Teaching. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a bachelor’s in Elementary Education and received the School of Education’s Student Leadership Award. In addition, she has 30 credits beyond her master’s.

From 1988-1992, she taught outside of Harford County before moving to HCPS in her current role at North Harford Middle School teaching language arts where she has been since 1992. Throughout her career, she has written curriculum, presented professional development programs and served as a mentor for student teachers. She also served as a Team Leader, Team Recorder and School Improvement and School-Based Instructional Decision-Making Team member.

The 2010-11 Maryland Teacher of the Year will be announced during the state gala reception and dinner at Martin’s West on October 8th. The winner will receive cash awards, technology equipment, national travel opportunities and a new car valued at more than \$25,000.

If selected as the state Teacher of the Year, Ms. Mullen will go on to compete for the National Teacher of the Year award, announced in April 2011. Visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) for more information on 2010-11 HCPS Teacher of the Year and State Finalist, Ms. Lisa C. Mullen.

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