

MACUL OUTSTANDING TECHNOLOGY- USING EDUCATOR NOMINATION

It with humble gratitude I announce my nomination of Mr. Phillip Quinlan for the MACUL Outstanding Technology-Using Educator, 2010. I've known Mr. Quinlan for the past four years as a teacher in the middle school building which I principal. I can think of no professional educator more deserving of such a prestigious technology use award.

Phil contributes to both his colleagues and the profession by attending and presenting at professional conferences, seminars and workshops. Most recently, Mr. Quinlan led the Mason/Lake/Oceana ISD in presenting "Moodle" technology to all local schools. Not only did he teach this to all local educators, but his preparatory work beforehand, in conjunction with ISD technology coordinators, proved successful in developing and capturing a common vision. He was most instrumental in building motivation in his adult learners with creative and thought provoking "starters." Mr. Quinlan also works at the local building level by leading all technology professional development and assisting our district technology coordinator in developing meaningful learning opportunities for our staff. These opportunities center around strategies our students are currently relating to. He assists in leading change from a technology standpoint and provides specific examples and tools for teachers to use immediately within content areas. His presence has additionally worked to alleviate the many fears teachers have regarding integrating technology into their classrooms. Phil has also followed protocol and requested to present at the upcoming MACUL conference.

Mr. Quinlan's work has a significant positive impact on our students. He's initiated and hand developed a modular technology lab that functions as a modern day woodshop, while encompassing all of the ISTE standards. This is done through a rotational, thirteen station lab, complete with modules that enhance math and science curriculum standards. This class acts as an encore opportunity for our students and Mr. Quinlan's goal is for every leaving 8th grader to have not only experience with, but proficiency in all targeted learning areas. His methods of assessment include rubric scoring and ISTE indicators. The students at MCC sincerely love being a part of the modular tech classroom, where not only do they learn about necessary technology for today's learner, but feel a part of something bigger than themselves. This teacher creates a culture through technology that says, "I fit in and I belong." His work at integrating technology throughout the building is evident as our staff is currently using United Streaming more now than ever at the Middle School. This is one specific example of how Phil's leadership and drive is enhancing our building culture and integration.

Phil Quinlan is the premier teacher leader in our building. Teachers look to him for insight regarding all professional domains, including technology use and development. Building wide professional development involving all technology use initiatives begin with him at the head of the table. His leadership has continued to spur on teachers' willingness to grow in a very non threatening way. Phil's skill set has provided our district wide SWAT analysis team opportunity to begin looking at learning in the 21st century more uniquely. The community leaders, parents, and teachers on the committee look to him for valuable insight as we continue leading our district from the middle. His passion to create and share a common vision regarding integrating technology across the board comes across such that folks want to listen and know that by doing so we are putting the students at MCC first. It is one of Phil's

driving passions to ensure each student who graduates from MCC is prepared with the appropriate tools to take on the challenges the world presents in this technological age.

Mr. Quinlan involves the community in the programs he creates for the district. One of Mr. Quinlan's most popular and meaningful programs is our daily Spartan News Program. This newscast, developed single handedly by this teacher, is entirely student led and driven. The news team creates story boards in preparation for the weekly casts and students use their creativity to develop programs which deliver school announcements, local, state and world news. This is done in an enjoyable fashion where students can focus on the strengths they've developed while learning in the modular technology lab. Examples of this would be the music and visual presentation behind the newscast. Other skills include taking this live broadcast from the newsroom to the entire school body with video feeds, computer animation, digital storytelling and audio-visual equipment integration. Mr. Quinlan has taken this program and linked it to our district's web page and provides our entire community access to a podcast which captures the Spartan News every day. One may view this by going to our district website..... mccschools.com, just follow the link to the middle school and look for Podcast. Mr. Quinlan also reaches our community by inviting them into our building for an annual Veteran's Day Program which honors our local Veterans. This program focuses on student leadership, technology integration, and affective learning domains through a dynamic presentation of digital storytelling and students celebration. This has quickly become a huge point of pride for our middle school and district, all done through Mr. Quinlan's passion for moving from a good school to a great school.

Phil works tirelessly to genuinely improve the quality of education for his students. The many examples from above along with his desire to learn new things to bring in the classroom really make this teacher unique. He attends the annual MACUL conference each year and continues to bring back invaluable materials and methods for student use. Phil leads area and school professional development created mostly from his personal research and study regarding meeting the needs of today's school age learner. Mr. Quinlan is constantly engaged in product analysis sifting through advancements that may enhance the learning of our middle level kids. Furthermore, Phil is diligent with mentoring and modeling practices by continuously advocating for individual follow up days to ensure staff/student learning, gather feedback, and re-teach if needed.

Mr. Quinlan has integrated national and state technology standards into improving education through the use of technology. The detailed description above involving the types of things this educator has carefully implemented give sound documentation to meshing ISTE standards with state and local initiatives. Phil has demonstrated continual growth in technology knowledge and maintains skills to stay abreast of current and emerging technologies. He has also researched and planned extensively within the scope of the programs he's created. Mr. Quinlan meets diverse student needs through digital storytelling, specific prompts/blog, and provides unlimited opportunities for students to creatively apply higher thinking skills by allowing them to create their own projects through detailed rubrics. Phil's methods increase productivity in the classroom and his technology vision has provided a direct and powerful link between school and community. Finally, Mr. Quinlan empowers safe and healthy use of our systems and resources equitably across the school environment by utilizing waivers and permission slips.

MACUL Outstanding Technology-Using Teacher, Educator, and Tech Coordinator

2010 Nomination Form

(Nominees must be MACUL members in good standing
prior to May 1 and at the time of the nomination.)

(Please check one)

☐ Pre K-12 Teacher Nomination

☒ Technology-Using Educator Nomination

☐ Technology Coordinator of the Year

Name Mr. Phil Quinlan

Grade(s) Taught 6, 7, 8 Subject Area(s) Modular Tech. Lab

School Building/District Mason County Central Middle School / School District

Work Address 310 W. Beryl St.

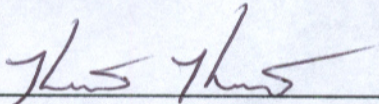
City/State/Zip Scottville ME 49454

Work Phone (231) 757-3724 Home Phone (231) 757-4661

E-Mail Address pquinlan@mccschools.com

Home Address 1869 N. Amber Rd.

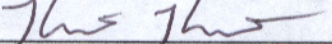
City/State/Zip Scottville ME 49454

Signature of Nominating Person 

Nominating Person's Address 2423 S. Morton Rd.

Nominating Person's City/State/Zip Ludington ME 49431

Nominating Person's Phone (231) 233-3226

Signature of Principal or Supervisor 

Principal or Supervisor's Address SAME

Principal or Supervisor's City/State/Zip _____

Signature of Nominee 

Date Submitted 12-18-09

Phillip S. Quinlan

1869 N. Amber Rd.

Scottville, MI 49454

231-757-4661 (home)

231-690-7812 (cell)

pquinlan@mccschools.com

Mission Statement

To give meaning and inspire our community of learners by fostering an atmosphere of student-directed learning with meaningful and enriched classroom opportunities.

Colleges and Universities

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Western Michigan University | June 1992 – August 1994 | Master of Arts in Education |
| Grand Valley State University | January 1986 – May 1988 | Bachelor of Science |
| | | K-9 th Group Social Science Endorsement |
| West Shore Community College | September 1982 – May 1984 | Associate of Criminal Justice |
| | | Michigan Police Certification |
| West Shore Community College | January 1980 – May 1982 | Associate of Applied Arts & Science Degree |

Teaching Employment

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Mason County Central Middle School | September 2006 – Present | 6 th , 7 th & 8 th grade, Modular Lab & technology elective courses |
| Mason County Central Middle School | September 1996 – June 2006 | 6 th grade Social Studies & Filmmaking |
| Shelby Middle School | September 1994 – June 1996 | 8 th grade Integrative LA/SS Course (Personally Designed) |
| Thomas Read Elementary | June 1988 – June 1994 | 5 th grade, All Subjects |
| Baldwin Community Schools | May 1988 – June 1988 | Long term Substituting, Resource Room |
| Mason County Central Middle School | January 1988 – May 1988 | 5 th & 6 th grades, <i>Student-Teaching</i> |

Professional Association Memberships

Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL)
Edutopia (Technology-Educators Association)
National Education Association (NEA)
Michigan Education Association (MEA)
Mason County Central Education Association (MCCEA) former building representative

Staff Development Leadership Activity / Training of Future Teachers

Professional Learning Community
2008 – Present

I created a 'learning community' within our building which plans, inspires, organizes and implements programs, training sessions and ideas that establishes an effective meaningful leaning environment for staff and students . . . www.forwardthinkers.ning.com

Strategic Planning Committee
2008 – Present

I am presently serving on a district wide committee that will shape our school districts mission & vision. The development of a SWOT analysis, Guiding Principles, Belief Statement and the development of an Action Plan has been created and I bring a 'strong' voice into the vision of creating 21st Century Classrooms that would keep our district competitive in a global market.

Designed workshops
For fellow educators
2006 – Present

Collaborative Project, Digital Storytelling, Moodle, The Amazing 'Shift', 21st Century Classroom, Successful Instructional Strategies for Multiple Learning Styles and other professional development opportunities have allowed me to grow, learn and inspire others. I have personally designed and given many workshops throughout our local ISD and district level on meaningful and effective strategies that work.

Master Teacher / Mentor Teacher
2002 – Present

I have trained supported & helped develop the skills of various prospective and student teachers. These experiences have fostered my profession as well as it has the beginning teacher. It has been an amazing opportunity to share, coach and learn while mentoring prospective teachers. As a mentor teacher to a variety of professional educators, I have found this experience to be one of the most rewarding aspects of my profession. I enjoy 'leading the charge' in not only professional development, but to mold the ideas and minds of inspiring young teachers.

E. Awards and Other Recognition

Nomination for National
VFW Educator Award
November 2009

Recognized for the creation of a Veteran's Day program honoring our local veterans. I have created a series of documentaries reflecting the stories of our local hero's. Continue to work with veterans as a member of the *Sons of the American Legion*.

Nomination Michigan Teacher
the Year Award
December 2009

Submitted by my building principal for my work 'spearheading' the Of charge in technology integration, meaningful application of 21st Century tools in the classroom and for workshop training for educators.

Local Media
Feature article
January 2007

Newly designed hands-on *Modular Lab* course in which integrates career applications for 6th – 8th grade students. A focus on STEM curriculum that includes the application of Aerodynamics (wind tunnel), Robotics & Automation, Engineering, Flight Simulation, Animation and Other career based possibilities for our young students.

Television, Radio & Newspaper
Media Coverage
October 2006 – Present

Shoe Box For Soldiers service-learning fundraising campaign to support troops overseas. Christmas & Valentine's Day packages sent to troops while being deployed in Iraq. Also, ran a Marathon to raise funds for a fallen soldier who died during deployment. Supported 'special' student who adopted the fallen soldiers family by sending Christmas presents for two years. The entire project was honored by Governor Granholm in June, 2009.

Optimist Teacher of the Year
May 1999

Honored by local Optimist Club, along with my wife, as Teacher of the Year.

Presidential Environmental
Youth Award
May 1999

Honored by President Bill Clinton for community service project for outstanding achievement in environmental protection service.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Mr. Phil Quinlan is a 6th, 7th, and 8th grade modular technology lab teacher. His classroom is set up to facilitate student learning and growth through a 13 station program designed to accentuate math, science and the arts.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kimes (Middle School Principal)

Once Again,

It is my sincerest honor
and pleasure to nominate Mr. Phil
Quinlan as Outstanding Tech. Use Educator!
Phil is 1st rate and will certainly do his
MAC job collegially. Very Proud.

Sincerely,

Kirk Kind
Principal

(231) 767 3724

December 18, 2009

Dear Selection Committee:

It is my privilege to write a letter of support for Mr. Phil Quinlan in our quest to recognize him as the MACUL Outstanding Technology-Using Educator of the year. It is my hope Phil's passion for students and technology will be evident as I share some of his attributes and accomplishments with you. My experience with Mr. Quinlan has been two-fold. I have known Phil as a fellow educator in our teacher/assistant principal role and also through our work together on a recent bond issue for our district. Phil helped us plan for increased technology access for our students, particularly at our middle school level.

Mr. Quinlan has been instrumental in helping our staff recognize the value of technology in the classroom and in the lives of our students. He has produced valuable staff development opportunities to expose hesitant teachers to the tool of technology. These opportunities have taken place in our local district and at our Intermediate School District (ISD) level. Phil helped coordinate a professional development day for our building with the theme "The Amazing Shift" – focusing on how educators need to shift our thinking in presenting material to our students. The students of today learn so much differently than students even ten years ago. To reach these students we need to have an "amazing shift" in the way we present and receive material. Teachers had an exciting and meaningful day of technology use with ideas of how they might integrate this "shift" in their own content area. All of Phil's professional development presentations have focused on making technology more accessible to teachers and less threatening. He has repeatedly offered his personal time to help any staff member who wishes to learn more in depth about a particular area. Phil also serves on our school improvement team and represents our encore teachers. His voice in regards to technology and innovative thinking is welcome and respected.

Phil Quinlan seems to be one of those individuals who believes we need to "lead from the middle". A concept where the middle school focuses on our building and bringing technology to our students, igniting in them a passion for technology that will carry them through their years of education. If Mr. Quinlan and the rest of our staff light the fire in our students then their quest for knowledge in these areas just continues to grow. The student ends up leading their own education and in turn challenges and sometimes teaches the teacher to discover even more. Mr. Quinlan lives for these moments when the student becomes the teacher. He has often had to expand his knowledge because a student's quest for learning has pushed him to his current limits.

It has become common place in our building to see students with digital cameras in the halls interviewing students and staff for a digital storytelling project. It has also become the norm to see students arriving early for school to be a part of our daily news cast, "the Spartan News", a student driven news cast that Mr. Quinlan volunteered to institute some years ago. Recently we needed t-shirts for our cheerleaders because their uniforms had not arrived and I went to Mr. Quinlan who quickly found a student who had been trained in graphic design through our Mod Tech Lab and the t-shirts were designed and created by the end of the day. Our students are confident in a variety of fields because of Mr. Quinlan's teaching in our thirteen station Modular Tech Lab. Students are exposed to aerodynamics, flight simulation, computer-aided design, and graphic design to name a few. It has been so much fun to watch students find a niche and a passion. Phil has made direct connections to math, science, social studies, and writing in the Mod Tech Lab by working with his fellow colleagues to find ways to enhance their curriculum.

Recently our district began a strategic planning process and Phil volunteered his time to serve on this committee. His input will be valuable as we move forward with becoming an even better district than we are today. Phil's input was also pivotal in bringing the Mod Tech Lab to our middle school students when we were looking to renovate and improve

our middle school during a recent bond issue. Phil's push for technology and his countless hours of research made his dream a reality. Then the hard work began. Once the decisions were in place to purchase the lab Phil had limited time to become trained to use the lab and make it a valuable tool. Phil spent countless hours familiarizing himself with all the stations. He wanted this technology to be "alive" for his students, not simply a piece of equipment that did something neat. The connections were always and continue to be important for him.

For a number of years our middle school has hosted a "Veterans Day Assembly" and Mr. Quinlan was responsible for developing this community event. The assembly begins with veterans and 6th grade students raising the flag at the pole outside, continues in to the gymnasium as veterans are introduced one by one to fanfare, and ends with a heartfelt video tribute shown to all in attendance. Mr. Quinlan authors the video tribute each year and rarely is there a dry eye in the house as he strives to help our students learn about service, dedication, and sacrifice for our country. This year his students were inspired to create a video of their own presented at the very beginning of the assembly. The day includes student and guest speakers and this year Mr. Quinlan coordinated veterans in the classroom. Each grade level had veterans sharing their stories and answering questions – a huge undertaking but a phenomenal learning experience for our young people and the veterans. Mr. Quinlan took a compelling idea he had to pay tribute to veterans and made it a reality and in the process modeled to our students that one person- one idea can change lives, can make a difference.

Mr. Quinlan has also been involved in producing a digital storytelling presentation for our local Mason County Sports Hall of Fame for several years. Those in attendance are amazed at the use of technology and the power of digital storytelling. His dedication has brought a level of class to this event not usually seen in our small rural area.

While Phil's passion is fun to watch it is even more inspiring to see the same type of passion in a student in his class room. He has students who already know their career direction because they "caught the fire" in Mr. Q's room. Our Mod Tech Lab has become a magical place – not just for learning but for motivation, inspiration, and achievement. We have young people who want to be news anchors, sportscasters on ESPN, meteorologists, architects, and song writers all because they were able to experience, in a non-threatening way, this avenue in Mr. Quinlan's room.

The ISTE national educational technology standards are implemented daily in Mr. Quinlan's room. He designs an effective learning environment in his classroom and then invites students to enter knowing technology will be the tool to discovery. Mr. Quinlan's classroom has also been our main source for teaching students about social, ethical, legal, and human issues in regards to technology. Phil both informs and models these practices. His implementation of moodle class environments, web sites, and shared folders provides students with a variety of methods and strategies for applying technology.

Please consider Mr. Phil Quinlan as a quality candidate for the Outstanding Technology-Using Educator of the Year. Phil is passionate about the use of technology in educating the students of today. He truly believes as educators we need to have a shift in how we present material to students and a shift in how we allow students to demonstrate what they have learned to us. Our middle school students are passionate about technology and demonstrate that passion even after they leave our building and much of that can be attributed to Mr. Quinlan and the way he presents technology and the quest for knowledge to our students. Phil's desire to help others in the use of technology carries beyond his students as he attempts to help fellow colleagues in our building and beyond understand that technology is a valuable, viable tool for reaching the expanse of our students' minds.

Sincerely,

Christy Christmas
Assistant Principal, Mason County Central Middle School

**Mason County Central Middle School
310 W. Beryl Street
Scottville, Michigan 49454
231-757-3724
FAX: 231-757-4820**



December 15, 2009

Dear Selection Committee:

It is my privilege to write a letter of recommendation for Mr. Phil Quinlan as MCAUL Outstanding Technology-Using Educator. I first met Phil Quinlan last year when I was hired as a social worker at Mason County Central Middle School. As a colleague of Phil's I have had the opportunity to observe his interactions with students, his instruction in the classroom, to sit alongside him as a student in continuing education classes, and to work next to him in the facilitation of professional development programs for our fellow middle school staff.

The word encouragement immediately comes to mind when thinking of Phil. His students and his co-workers alike are inspired by Phil's quest for innovative learning. In his classroom he not only provides high-quality, differentiated, integrated curriculum for his students, but he inspires them to be the facilitators of their own education through the provision of multiple opportunities for self-directed learning. Phil continually seeks to improve his curriculum, making it relevant to current events and technological advances. The integration of technology in new and original manners is a strength that Phil brings to Mason County Central Middle School.

Phil's enthusiasm in equipping those around him for success extends beyond the realm of his classroom. Those of us who have the pleasure of working with Phil benefit from his passion for continued growth and self-improvement. Phil has taken an active role in clarifying MCC's vision both as an entire district and also as a middle school family. Phil is currently a member of MCC Middle School's School Improvement Team, a group in charge of building-wide decisions. He has also played a key role in the coordination and facilitation of staff professional development curriculum at the middle school; curriculum that integrated multiple uses of technological tools. Phil's gift of encouragement and his desire to be a team player are evident in the manner with which he chooses to lead; not as an individual, but as one who fosters leadership in those around him, pulling together a group of people to effectively implement a vision greater than a single individual.

The list of activities and services that Phil provides to his community is extensive. However, what sets Phil apart from other teachers is his willingness to selflessly set aside the possibility of recognition for himself, favoring instead to edify those around him. It is this gift of selfless encouragement that makes Phil unique and also is one of numerous talents that enable him to be an outstanding teacher. Thank you for the opportunity to share with you the excellence that Phil brings to the educational arena. It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Phil Quinlan for MCAUL Outstanding Technology-Using Educator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosanna Sutton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rosanna Sutton
Social Worker
Mason County Central Middle School