School of Education Awards

Outstanding Cooperating Teacher
[copies given to University supervisors and candidates]

- Up to two are awarded annually
- All cooperating teachers eligible
- Awarded at final Student Teaching event.
- Recipient receives a plaque

Description:

The Outstanding Cooperating Teacher Award is awarded to a cooperating teacher who has provided exceptional mentoring for a student teacher.

Criteria:

- Served as a cooperating teacher in the current academic year (Fall and Spring semesters)
- Student teacher will or has received all Met ratings on High Point University Exit Criteria
- Performance as a mentor was positive and productive with professional feedback and time given to the student teacher beyond what was expected.
- Maintained excellent communication with the University Supervisor as well as the student teacher.

Nomination and Selection Process:

- Written nomination by University Supervisor and/or Student Teacher.
- Nomination should include a narrative that addresses the criteria and provides clear and specific evidence that the person nominated has demonstrated the characteristics of an exceptional mentor. At least one specific example of the mentoring should be cited.
- Nominations reviewed by Awards Committee.
Directions for the Awards Committee

Student Teacher and Cooperating Teacher Awards

Date: April 16, 2013

To: 2012-2013 Awards Committee: Sarah, Leslie and Rosie

From: Barbara L

First, thank you for agreeing to serve. I have attached the criteria for the two awards. As you will note we received a number of nominations in both categories. What I would like for you to do is to prioritize (rating) the whole group of student teachers as a single entity. Then within each of the licensure areas, prioritize each nominee. We usually give five awards and often choose to select a representation of most areas hence the two rating columns.

Generally we give one award for a cooperating teacher but with the number of student teachers we had this year, Dr. Tillery agreed that we need to honor two of them.

I will be glad to send the table to you if you would rather send me your results electronically.

I would like to have your individual ratings by Friday if at all possible. I will be here until five. This means that you do not need to meet as a group. I know everyone is so busy at this time but I have to have time to get the award plaques.

Again, thank you.
SAMPLE Checklist for Selection Committee

Outstanding Cooperating Teacher for 2012-13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School Level</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Beaston</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie Daniel</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Gibson</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Hagen</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Jones</td>
<td>Special Education-Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydia Kirkman</td>
<td>6th grade, Middle School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Joelle Milton</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Don Rakes</td>
<td>Special Education-Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetta Spratt</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Stewart</td>
<td>Special Education-Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarita Yandle</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Nomination by a Candidate of a Cooperating Teacher Selected for the Award

Outstanding Cooperating Teacher Award

I would like to nominate my teacher, Mrs. Callaci, for the Outstanding Cooperating Teacher Award. Mrs. Callaci is a graduate of High Point University’s School of Education, a first grade teacher at Friendship Elementary School, and my Cooperating Teacher.

In the fall of my Senior year, I began my internship with a class at Jamestown Elementary School, and continued with this same class in the second semester as I began student teaching. About a month in to student teaching, I was told that I would be switching classrooms and would be reassigned to a new school—Friendship Elementary. This had the potential to be a difficult and frustrating time for me. I was already familiar with the students at my old elementary school and only had a few months left until graduation. The change would mean that I would have to get to know new students, a new cooperating teacher, and even an entire new grade level’s curriculum given that I was moving from a third grade class to a first grade class. Mrs. Callaci made all the stress I had about the change go away in about five minutes. She embraced me into her classroom with open arms and assured me that I would be up to speed in short order. From this first day, I knew she was a special teacher, mentor and friend. Since then, we have never looked back, and she has helped me both in and out of the classroom.

Mrs. Callaci has done many things to help me become a better teacher. She has devoted considerable time and energy above what I expected in order to help identify my weaknesses, build on my strengths, and address little unexpected problems and opportunities in the classroom. Mrs. Callaci has always reviewed my
Nomination by a Candidate of a Cooperating Teacher Selected for the Award

lesson plans, providing both positive and constructive feedback for every subject’s lesson, every day. She has helped provide me with extra information on strategies she has found beneficial and what she has learned from and avoided. When I first began teaching, she would sit in the corner of the classroom, taking notes on every thing that I did. After class each day, she would sit down with me and discuss both good and bad things that I would do in my lessons. She continued this until I was going through lessons and not making any mistakes. Her helping me in just these two ways took up time that she could have spent doing other things. But, she felt that it was her duty to do whatever it took to help me succeed.

These two specific actions she took helped to develop me in my teaching and lesson planning, but that just scratches the surface of what she has done to help me. She invited me to sit in on parent-teacher conferences to help gain insight into the administrative side of being a teacher. She also shared with me the data that she has developed on her class and helped me to learn how to analyze data in order to be a more effective teacher. Clearly, Ms. Callaci has gone above and beyond in helping me become a successful teacher. But, these are not the only ways in which she has helped me.

My Cooperating Teacher has also made a significant investment in helping me get a teaching job after graduation. She has reviewed my resume, offered to send me her resume as an example, and has given me countless books to help get me started in my own classroom. I am trying to get a job in Wake County, and Mrs. Callaci has offered to reach out to teachers that she knows in the Raleigh area in order to put in a good word for me and to help me land interviews. She has helped
Nomination by a Candidate of a Cooperating Teacher Selected for the Award

me navigate the application process and has given me little tips on how to land the
interview, and once I have landed the interview, how to turn it into a full time job.
Further, she has given me the complete rights to her entire idea library to help me
formulate creative lesson plans once I’m on my own.

Nowhere in her Cooperating Teacher Manual does it state that she is
supposed to help me by doing any of the abovementioned things. But, she does them
anyway because she feels that my success is her responsibility, and that is what
makes her an Outstanding Cooperating Teacher.
HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY
School of Education

STUDENT TEACHER CELEBRATION
&
AWARDS CEREMONY

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

AGENDA

Reception
(Proceed to the Resource Center at 6:15. Program to begin promptly at 6:30)

Greetings and Invocation ................................................................. Dr. Mariann Tillery
                                            Dean

Introduction of Keynote Speaker ............................................... Dr. Barbara Leonard
                                            Associate Dean

Keynote Speaker ........................................................................... Ms. Gail Spencer, B.A., M.Ed.
                                            Principal, Pickett Elementary School, Lexington, NC

Outstanding Student Teachers 2015 ........................................ Dr. Barbara Leonard

Outstanding Cooperating Teachers 2015 ................................. Dr. Barbara Leonard

Special Recognitions and Awards ................................................ Dr. Mariann Tillery