



## LOUISIANA EXEMPLARY EDUCATOR RECOGNITION PROGRAM SAMPLE RECOMMENDATION FORM

The Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program was created to honor and elevate exceptional early- to mid-career teachers, teacher specialists, assistant principals and principals who exemplify Louisiana's education profession. If selected as an Exemplary Educator, the educator will receive a certificate of recognition, honored during a [Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education \(BESE\)](#) meeting and may be invited to participate on advisory boards and task forces, as well as be considered for other state and national recognition programs. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your school system, community and state because of their expertise. We invite you to recommend exemplary educators who have demonstrated the following:

1. **Exceptional educational talent** as evidenced by **effective and innovative instructional practices** and **student learning results** in the classroom and school;
2. **Exemplary educational accomplishments** and leadership beyond the classroom that **provide models of excellence** for the profession;
3. Individuals whose contributions to education are **largely unheralded**, yet worthy of the spotlight;
4. **Early- to mid-career educators** (minimum of five years experience) who **offer strong long-range potential** for professional and policy leadership; and
5. **Engaging and inspiring presence** that motivates and **impacts students, colleagues and the community.**

**NOTE:** THIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL PROCESS. INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT BE AWARE OF THIS RECOMMENDATION

### Recommender's Information

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number (Preferably cell): [REDACTED]

Your relation to the Candidate (Supervisor, Colleague, Parent, Other): Supervisor

If you selected other, please specify:

How long have you known the candidate? 4 years

### Candidate's Information

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Candidate's School System Name: [REDACTED]

Candidate's Number of Years in the School System: 6 years

Candidate's School Name: [REDACTED]

Candidate's School Address: [REDACTED]

Candidate's School Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Candidate's School Fax Number: [REDACTED]



Candidate's Grade Level(s): 9th and 10th Grade

The Candidate is Which of the Following:

Teacher       Specialist       Assistant Principal  
 Principal       Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

If Candidate is a Teacher, Select Subject Area (Check all that apply for current school year):

Reading/English/Language Arts       Science       Mathematics  
 Social Studies       Fine Arts  
 Foreign Language (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Ethnicity:

White       Black or African American  
 Asian       Native American Indian or Alaska Native  
 Hispanic or Latino       Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
 Two or More Races       Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Candidate's Education Information

List the College/University Where the Candidate Got Their Degree(s) as well as the Year the Degree Was Obtained. View that information here- <https://www.teachlouisiana.net/teachers.aspx?PageID=416>:

Degree	College/University	Year
Bachelor	Louisiana State University	2013
Master	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	2015
Specialist		
Doctorate		

List where the teacher completed their teacher preparation program: Louisiana State University

### References

As a part of the application review process for the Exemplary Educator Award, reference checks may be completed for nominated candidates. As a nominator, you are already serving as a reference for your nominee. Using the form below, please list three (3) additional points of contact who can serve as professional references for the candidate in support of their candidacy.



- References should be individuals who have recent experience working directly with the nominee in a professional capacity; and
- If you are not the direct supervisor of the candidate you are nominating, please ensure that the nominee's direct supervisor is listed as one of the three references below.

Prefix	First and Last Name	Title	Phone Number	Email
Dr.	██████████	Supervisor of Secondary Education	██████████	██████████
Mr.	██████████	English Department Head	██████████	██████████
Ms.	██████████	Data Manager	██████████	██████████

### Ratings and Responses

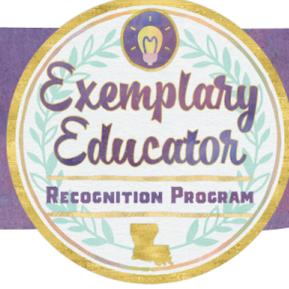
Rate the educator from 1-10 (10 being highest) on numbers 1 through 4 and provide a paragraph(s) to explain your rating. Be detailed and thorough, with examples whenever possible.

1. Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective instructional and innovative practices and student learning results in the classroom and school.

Rating: 10

Explanation:

Every time I have visited ██████████'s classroom, including his virtual classroom over the last several months, I am in awe of his endless contagious enthusiasm. ██████████ is a thoughtful and creative educator. When ██████████ leads his class, it is purposeful; when students respond, he doesn't shut them down, but instead asks follow up questions: "Why?" "What do you mean by that?" -- encouraging students to work on walking through their thought process, so that he can both praise them for what is being done correctly and help them troubleshoot where they have made any missteps. This invitation to explore their process helps them see that math isn't just about the right answer. It's not about memorizing procedures. It's about understanding. ██████████ doesn't teach his students to cross multiply; instead, he teaches students to understand that multiplying any number by a fraction equal to one does not change the value of the original number. He gives students time to think, and while ██████████ runs his class with a sense of urgency, it is never at the expense of giving students time to process. ██████████ creates a collaborative and joyful classroom culture, one where students work together to find solutions. I have seen his Geometry class on the floor of his room assembling proofs with giant pieces of paper. This effort to keep students engaged did not end when we switched to virtual learning. When faced with how to track and engage students on Zoom, he



figured out how to export chat and auto populate a spreadsheet to track student contributions. ██████ is always looking to improve and open minded to new ideas. He has successfully implemented student feedback which he regularly seeks, allowing himself to model the same discovery learning with himself as he does with his students.

2. Exemplary educational accomplishments and leadership beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession. Include committees, mentoring, news items, publications, presentations.

Rating: 10

Explanation:

██████ was elected by his department to serve as department chairperson for the last two years. In this capacity, he meets with the Leadership team bi-monthly through which I have witnessed his courage and ethical leadership. He has courage to speak up for students and ideals even when his positions are not popular. He has shown courage in coaching and guiding teachers in his department. As a member of the Leadership team, he has consistently demonstrated his commitment to advancing equality and directed resources to families in need. This year I have had several discussions with ██████ about students that struggle in Algebra I and how to help these students be successful. Out of these discussions we have formulated our own credit recovery program to be launched this summer. ██████ has agreed to teach this course, and I cannot think of a better teacher for these students and this course.

In the fall of 2019, ██████ designed, promoted and launched a school open-access food pantry. The purpose of the food pantry was to create a discrete way for students in need to access donations of food, personal hygiene items, and clothing. ██████ not only was the inspiration for the creation of the pantry but also followed through with the necessary steps to bring the idea into fruition. This combination of moral leadership and attention to details makes ██████ an excellent leader and a natural fit for school leadership positions in the future.

3. Strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership including teacher leadership, mentoring. Predict the educator's potential to remain in education for at least 25 more years and demonstrate and increase leadership impact in the profession.

Rating: 10

Explanation:

██████ is a school leader in educational technology. He is constantly learning about new tools and then teaching other members of the school how to use these technologies in the classroom. When teachers try new technology and have questions, even though we have an IT department, teachers turn to ██████ with questions. This year more than ever he has been essential to the successful implementation of virtual classrooms across the school.

The 2020-21 school year was unlike any other with exceptional challenges to learning presented by the



pandemic. Recognizing that some students did not learn as effectively this past school year, [REDACTED] spearheaded the creation and implementation of a summer enrichment program open to all students for the summer of 2021. [REDACTED] reached out to an online provider he had worked with before, weighed the advantages and disadvantages of several different options, arranged for payment and set up student passwords and logins. He almost single-handedly rolled out a platform for student remediation and enrichment for students to build confidence in ELA and Math skills for the summer of 2021.

[REDACTED] is a committed educator with a passion for students and his community. I envision him as a teacher and school leader for the entirety of his professional career. I sincerely hope he continues to work at [REDACTED] because he brings so much positive impact to the school. He will be an outstanding asset to any educational institution.

4. Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community. Do students perform at higher levels due to the educator, pursue certain careers, credit their success to the educator, etc.?

Rating: 10

Explanation:

I have never worked with a more inspirational and enthusiastic educator than [REDACTED] in my 30 years of education. I am at times in awe of his energy level that he brings to all of his endeavors. In the classroom, in a meeting with his colleagues, in a staff PD meeting, or at a school-wide pep rally [REDACTED] is able to fully present, focused at the task at hand and positive. His energy and passion is contagious, and he makes the whole school better.

When testing approaches, [REDACTED] knows that for some of his students it is their first high stakes testing experience and for all his other students, it can still be a daunting experience. He refuses to let students leave his room with those nerves, covering his room in inspirational quotes. He then stands on his desk, channeling Robin Williams in *Dead Poets Society*, motivating his students to believe in themselves. As they leave his room, he has them jump up and high five a sign that simply says, "Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do." (Spock)

**A bulleted list is fine for the items below:**

Cite evidence of student achievement gains as a result of the educator's practices, *even if from a previous year*:

- For multiple years(2016-18), [REDACTED]'s VAM Geometry scores were above 95%.
- Despite COVID shutting down our in-person instruction in March 2020, 83.3% of [REDACTED]'s students earned a credit-bearing score on the AP Calculus exam during the May 2020 AP Exam administration. Students earned a mean score of 3.75 -- surpassing our school, state, and global average, and 33% of students earned the highest possible score on the exam.



Cite awards the educator has received:

- [REDACTED] High School Teacher of the Year, 2020-2021
- Cox Teacher of the Week ([REDACTED] 2017)