

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Recognizing Jessica Murphy as an
Oakland Unified School District 2010-11 Teacher of the Year**

Resolution No. 1011-0031

WHEREAS, The goal of OUSD’s Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor superior teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of our outstanding instructors; and

WHEREAS, The Teacher of the Year Team and Superintendent Tony Smith recommended Jessica Murphy, a first grade teacher at Sequoia Elementary as one of two OUSD Teachers of the Year for 2010-11, a recommendation that was unanimously approved by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Murphy has been with the District for six years, beginning her career in Oakland as an Instructional Assistant at Thornhill Elementary before progressing to the role of reading instructor at Sequoia where she began teaching first grade in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Kyla Johnson-Trammel, Jessica’ Principal for 2009-10, explained that “Jessica has worked fervently to master the art of differentiation. On any given day, you can observe three to four learning stations, with advanced students trained to run learning stations for struggling students. The high level of autonomous student learning allows Jessica to work with small groups – at their specific zone of proximal development – so she can document their learning and then later use that data to modify instruction or activities for learning stations”; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson-Trammel also noted that, “Jessica excels at maintaining classroom order through positive incentives and building student responsibility. Through this constant modeling, Jessica creates a relaxed, constructive and supportive environment where in student conflicts are minimized and students feel safe to learn.”; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Murphy says that her “goal as a teacher goes well beyond teaching mere subject matter, but rather revolves around teaching students how to learn and interact successfully with their world and inspire them to seek out their own learning in all facets of their lives while providing them with the tools they need to succeed.”; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Murphy exemplifies the commitment to excellence, concern for students, devotion to practice and constant improvement, attention to cultural competency and desire to encourage social growth and a joy of learning that OUSD seeks from all its teachers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District commend Jessica Murphy for exceptional service to the students of Oakland and recognize her as one of OUSD’s 2010-11 Teachers of the Year.

Gary Yee
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Tony Smith
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District