

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

**Recognizing Lawrence Evans as an
Oakland Unified School District 2010-11 Teacher of the Year**

Resolution No. 1011-0032

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 Lawrence Evans, a Chemistry teacher at Oakland Technical High 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, Lawrence Evans teaches regular, Honors and AP Chemistry at Oakland Technical High School where he has worked for the past 12 years; and

WHEREAS, One hundred-percent of Mr. Evans' students passed the AP Chemistry exam in 2008; and

WHEREAS, One of Mr. Evans' AP Chemistry students said "I am beyond thankful for his effort to try to teach some of the most complicated concepts of chemistry, His dedication to his job is clearly seen by many students. In his class, I am always kept intellectually engaged in different topics, and he encourages me to continue to pursue more knowledge outside of class. By taking his class, not only am I more confident in being able to succeed in college, but I have also been inspired to pursue a career in the field of chemistry."; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Evans says the essence of his teaching philosophy is that, "Students will productively engage when you give them assignments that they view as meaningful and doable. The most important part is the 'doable.' As teachers we must take the time to first equip the students with the tools, the skills and knowledge to do the tasks we assign. We must also provide context for the assignment so that is interesting and relevant."; and

WHEREAS, A former student of Mr. Evans, currently enrolled at Harvard University wrote that, "Although every student has different reasons for respecting Mr. Evans, I personally believe that he deserves this award because he has been such a significant influence in my life. His class has allowed me to discover my interest in chemistry and has inspired me to major in this field of science. In a way, I can really relate to Mr. Evans. Just as I am always pursuing a better understanding of this world, Mr. Evans is constantly searching for ways to help his students."

WHEREAS, Mr. Evans takes a deep personal interest in students while demonstrating the level of dedication, content knowledge mastery and organization we seek from all teachers along with a commitment to building community partnerships, parent involvement and student engagement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District commend Lawrence Evans for exceptional service to the students of Oakland and recognize him 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