

**Janice Parrott selected as the McAlester Public Schools 2010 Teacher of the Year.**

This Monday at the Professional Development Day, attended by all MPS Teachers, Janice Parrott was voted upon by her peers as the 2010 Teacher of the Year.

Janice Parrott started her teaching career 18 years ago at Jones Academy Alternative School in conjunction with Hartshorne Public Schools. The following year she began teaching at McAlester Public Schools. She taught 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Edmond Doyle Elementary School, 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Will Rogers Elementary School, and presently teaches 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Parker Intermediate Center. Mrs. Parrott has served on numerous committees at all school sites. She was also a Team Leader at Will Rogers Elementary School.

Mrs. Parrott graduated from McAlester Public Schools in 1979 as one of the six co-valedictorians that year. She received her Associate of Arts from Palm Beach Community College in Lake Worth, Florida. In 1992 she graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in elementary education from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. In 2008 she received her Master of Education in elementary school principal from East Central University in Ada.

Mrs. Parrott received her National Board Certification in 2001. In 2003 she was accepted to participate in the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute in Virginia. She was a Teacher of the Year Finalist in 2002 and Edmond Doyle Teacher of the Year in 1997. Mrs. Parrott also received the Teacher of Today award in 2008 from the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma.

Mrs. Parrott believes a good education is necessary for all students in today's world. She feels that this requires collaboration of all areas in the life of a child, at school and at home. It also requires the willingness of the child. As in the analogy of a three-legged stool, all legs are necessary for the stool to stand. In education these legs are represented by the school, parent, and child. All are needed in the education of a child.

Mrs. Parrott and her husband Richard reside in Kiowa and are members of Kiowa First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Parrott will now complete a portfolio for the State Teacher of the Year Competition. Twelve teachers will be selected from that competition. The finalists will be notified this summer and the Oklahoma 2010 Teacher of the Year will be announced at the State Fair in OKC in September.