

Maxfield Magnet teacher named Minnesota Teacher of the Year

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Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) sixth grade teacher Ryan Vernosh is 2010 Minnesota Teacher of the Year. The appointment, which was made public Sunday, May 2, is the culmination of a search process that began with more than 400 nominations and 107 candidates.

"Ryan represents the teacher of the future that our nation's students need right now," said Saint Paul Public Schools Superintendent Valeria Silva. "He truly embodies the passion, dedication and determination of our District's quality educators that work tirelessly in our classrooms to effect positive change in our students' lives."

Vernosh, who teaches sixth graders at Maxfield Magnet as part of the school's gender specific programming, is the second ever SPPS teacher to be named Teacher of the Year. He has been with the District since 2004 and has taught at Maxfield since 2006.

"This isn't a testament to anything I've done," Vernosh said. "It's a testament to the hard work that the young men in my class do. They come to us with incredible brilliance and they shine everyday."

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Maxfield Magnet Principal Nancy Stachel said Vernosh is the consummate educator.

"He's an excellent teacher who truly sees the potential in each of the young men with whom he works," Stachel said.

The Teacher of the Year program is underwritten by Education Minnesota, the statewide educators union. This marks the 46th anniversary of the program. As Minnesota's Teacher of the Year, Vernosh will be the state's nominee for National Teacher of the Year 2011.