

May 12, 2003

Paul Cuicchi
Starkville High School
603 Yellow Jacket Drive
Starkville, Mississippi 39759

Dear Mr. Cuicchi:

On behalf of the 2.8 million citizens of Mississippi, please accept this letter of congratulations for your being named Mississippi's 2002 Teacher of the Year and for your exemplary service to our state in this role during the past year.

Your being named Teacher of the Year is the highest honor that is conveyed upon a teacher by the Department of Education. Your twenty-five years of teaching and your personal interest in your students' well being are only a few of the qualities that earned you this recognition. You have gone the extra mile to better yourself and your classroom skills in order to provide an exciting, effective and beneficial experience for your students. Your earning your National Board Certification in 1999 is a testimony to this.

I know you have been called upon, as our state's 2002 Teacher of the Year, to give even more of your time. You have represented our state, your school and your profession in an exemplary manner in the many meetings you have attended and speeches you have given. I know this past year has provided many memorable experiences and opportunities for you.

Thank you, again, for your support of and dedication to education in Mississippi. I wish you well in all of your future endeavors.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr