

# MEMO

To: Mike Riggle

Fr: Karen Geddeis

Re: Students and Staff Who Excel

Date: September 29, 2015

At the meeting on October 26, during the Students and Staff Who Excel segment, we will recognize physics teacher Mr. Nate Unterman for his service helping students test new theories and run experiments at GBN.

Over the summer, as the sponsor and leader for COLOSSAL Club, Mr. Unterman coordinated the first-ever partnership for high school students with FermiLab. Twelve GBN students were invited to use FermiLab's facility and resources to run their own experiment for two weeks, gaining confidence and real-life experience in the field while doing inaugural work on their chosen subject. He also recently arranged for a Cosmic Ray detector to be available at GBN for students to continue their research and expand their skill set.

During his thirty years at GBN, Mr. Unterman has amassed additional notable achievements:

- Overseeing and advising student proposal for the CERN "BeamLine for Schools" international competition. Advising student competitions for Intel, NASA/NSTA shuttle, Intech-90, National Bridge Building and Duracell.
- Developing and designing the Physics First curriculum model and Material Sciences capstone course.
- Creating the Research Review Board to review and maintain safety for research being done in the Glenbrook community.
- Authoring ten scholarly textbooks and articles, including *Amusement Park Physics* and the first three additions of *Hewitt High School Conceptual Physics*.
- Continuing his professional development in the High School Teacher Program at CERN.
- Twelve-time nominee for Distinguished Teacher; winning recipient in 1989. Five-time new teacher mentor. Sponsor for Advanced Honors Research Program.

Mr. Unterman will retire at the end of the 2015-16 school year. He was invited to the meeting for formal recognition.