

Date October 30, 1969

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD  
Science and Mathematics

State Director:

David V. McCalley  
Assistant Professor of Biology  
Department of Biology  
University of Northern Iowa  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

Candidate in the Area of:  
(Check Only One)

Biology \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemistry \_\_\_\_\_  
Physics \_\_\_\_\_  
Earth Science \_\_\_\_\_  
Mathematics X

Recommendation Form

This form should be completed only by a person in the education profession qualified to judge the teaching effectiveness of the candidate or, if not in the education profession, by a person uniquely qualified to know of the teaching effectiveness of the candidate. Two such recommendations must be mailed to the State Director.

Statements by the recommending person must be specific. Give specific examples to support general statements like, "has good work habits," or "is an excellent teacher," etc. Unless you give specific examples, you penalize the candidate.

Name of candidate Mr. E. Wm. Gilbert

School in which candidate teaches Columbus High School

Address of school Waterloo, Iowa 50702

1. Teaching Ability: What techniques does this teacher employ? Is his course comprehensive yet enjoyed by students? Does he enjoy teaching?

In the field of Math he encourages the students to excel by giving them many practical problems to work out on their own or in small groups. He has many spheres, cylinders, globes, charts, machines etc. in the Math Resource center for the students to work with during their unscheduled time. In the better classes he does a minimum of lecturing and allows the students to work at their own pace but is always available if they need help or encouragement. He has worked out a complete program for the Math department and has done away with texts as such. All the teachers in his department (5 instructors besides himself) follow this method of teaching and work together to present the materials, thereby utilizing strengths in any given staff member.

2. Cooperativeness: How does the teacher cooperate in the school program or other academic areas? Cooperative in community affairs?

Mr. Gilbert has been a member of the faculty scheduling committee and helped to formulate the new Columbus Schedule which consists of 9 periods a day and split period flexibility. He has been the moderator for the National Honor Society in this school for the past 6 years and uses his members to help tutor slower students and to teach classes when necessary. During the past few years he has served as a visiting team member for the NCA school visitations.

He is the main mover behind the coordination that exists between his department and the Math, Science, English and all other areas. A great staff member and terrific department chairman.

3. Inventiveness: What new ideas does he use, or has he produced, in teaching? What new devices?

Every summer he either attends Summer school, or works in Upward bound or teaches college courses in the neighborhood University. It is in this way that he picks up many new ideas and uses them. Every Wednesday night he comes to the school and makes all the machines and instruments available to any students who wish to come and use them. He also utilizes a number of games like chess in order to teach the in logic and chance.

4. Initiative: Be specific. Has failure stopped him? Does he adapt his methods to new situations?

Failure has not even slowed him down. It is a challenge to go higher and better. He lost a leg in the War but no one hardly notices it. In the field of teaching he is not afraid to try new methods and experiment with different ideas. It would seem that the new staff members who have just graduated from college would be up on the latest, but Mr. Gilbert is far ahead of this group. He knows the most modern methods and adapts to them readily.

5. Principal Strength of Candidate:

He makes wanting to learn, part of the system. He inspires the students and the rest of the department to really get out and work. He is a person of great personality and well liked by all the members of the entire staff. He is a tireless worker for education. He is very loyal to the school. Always willing to work on committees. Has good practical ideas.

6. Principal Weakness of Candidate:

Gets carried away by his ideas.

7. Other Important Information:

Is a family man having two sons, one of whom is a student here at the school. Fine father for the boys. Religious person who has a deep faith in God and humanity. Is vitally concerned about his students and follows them after graduation to see how they fair. Promotes their getting involved in activities of the Math nature, outside of the school.

Name of recommending person Rev. Walter Brunkan

Principal

Address Colum bus High School  
Waterloo, Iowa

Official position Principal