

Date November 10, 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   /  

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 Nelle Gustavson  
School in which candidate teaches Pekin Community High School  
Address of school Packwood, Iowa

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

This teacher thoroughly enjoys teaching. She is from the traditional school, but what she teaches is so very timely for our students today. I would rate her an excellent teacher.

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

Mrs. Gustavson lives in Ottumwa, but yet I feel that she is a part of our school community. She tries to attend all of our school activities that she possibly can and she is Senior Class co-sponsor and sponsor of the National Honor Society.

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

The technique of this candidate is to know the student and care about him as an individual. She does not use a lot of new, innovative practices in name, but instead stresses the importance of caring when something is being done. She works hard at developing an appreciation of the subject matter.

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

Mrs. Gustaveson is a very ambitious person. She is constantly in control of the situation at all times and meets any new situation head on.

5. Principal Strength of Candidate:

I would say her principal strength was in her ability to inspire her students to greater accomplishments. Also, the examples she sets every day for all of us at Pekin High School is an inspiration.

6. Principal Weakness of Candidate:

I don't believe she has any glaring weakness. If I were to pick out a single factor to be concerned with it might be that she is a bit overly-forceful with her colleagues some times.

7. Other Important Information:

Mrs. Gustaveson is my choice of what an outstanding teacher should be. Although of the traditional school, she has kept abreast of where we are in education today. She is an active church member and a patriotic member of our society. As stated in our yearbook of last year, "She works hard at being a teacher, friend, and an individual--and does a good job in each area."

Name of recommending person William L. Anderson

Address Pekin Community Official position Principal  
High School