

2008 FASF Teacher of Year

Kirk Hansen

Davison Middle School Science Teacher



- U Michigan Flint 2001 BA in Secondary Education (General Science)
- Eastern Michigan University 2006 MA in Educational Leadership
- Eagle Scout 1994
- Dean's List & University of Michigan-Flint Scholar 1999 - 2001

While an undergraduate worked as a substitute teacher, tutor and lab assistant.

Science Teacher Davison Middle School 2/02—
Secretary of State Office 1995-99

Excerpts from a Davison newspaper article following his selection as the 2008 FASF "Teacher of the Year." "It's an honor," Hansen said of the recognition. "But ultimately, it comes down to the kids; they're the ones who do the work."

Hansen was selected by a panel of four judges who reviewed nominations of teachers representing Genesee, Lapeer, Shiawassee and Tuscola counties. This is the second year the Flint Area Science Fair Board has named a Teacher of the Year.

"I truly believe the science fair is the closest thing we as teachers can get to real research and science," Hansen said. "The cookbook labs that we always seem to fall into don't have quite the impact on learning as these experiments do."

Students learn firsthand about variables when conducting their experiments. In addition, there's adult interaction as students are interviewed — somewhat intensely — about their projects by judges.

All of Hansen's honors science students are required to complete a science experiment. They began working on their projects after the MEAP test last fall. While Hansen encourages all of his students to enter their projects in the Flint Area Science Fair, it is not a requirement.

2008 was the fourth year Hansen's students competed at the fair. This year, 45 of his students entered their projects.