

An Indianapolis
Classical
High School



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PRESS RELEASE

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Indianapolis, IN --- Herron High School teacher Greg Lineweaver has been awarded the prestigious Milken Family Foundation's *National Educator Award*. The award comes with a \$25,000 cash prize and was announced during an assembly hosted by Dr. Tony Bennett, Superintendent of Public Instruction and attended by several lawmakers and community leaders. Lineweaver is the first Indiana charter school teacher to receive this award.

Details of the announcement were a closely guarded secret. Dr. Bennett addressed the faculty and students of Herron High School and commended them for their remarkable academic achievements. Bennett congratulated Herron High School's faculty and leadership for their dedication to excellence, and praised students for the diligence with which they approach their education.

The award was announced by Dr. Jane Foley, a former Milken Educator Award recipient and now Senior Vice President, Milken Educator Awards. In her remarks she noted that teachers were too often the unsung heroes, performing some of the most important work in our communities. Dr. Foley said the Milken Award was designed to recognize and reward excellence in teaching, and to inspire students to consider a career in education.

In his acceptance of the award, Lineweaver echoed Foley by emphasizing the utmost importance of teaching to the student body, and encouraged them to consider teaching as a career.

For Greg Lineweaver, teaching is much more than a career. As a teacher of AP English, Lineweaver brings relevance to the classroom, instilling his students with a love of language and an understanding of how language shapes culture. One of his students, Hannah Lalioff, explained, "Mr. Lineweaver doesn't just teach. He infuses the class work with a relevancy that is at times intimidating, and the value he places in your work makes you recognize its importance as well."

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“Greg’s passion, professionalism and perseverance are qualities he imparts to his students in the classroom. He understands that believing in one’s ability to achieve great things is the first step to creating lasting success,” said Janet McNeal, Principal of Herron High School. “Greg truly believes in his students, leading them to develop higher expectations for themselves.”

Lineweaver was the first faculty member hired by Herron High School’s founders. “I wanted to join a school whose focus went beyond academic achievement; I wanted to be a part of a school culture that was concerned with the development of character,” said Lineweaver.

Joining the team well before the public charter school opened its doors, Lineweaver saw the opportunity to be part of a collaborative effort to build, from the foundation up, a center of learning that was truly student focused and committed to quality, diversity and intellectual enrichment. “We were seeking new ways to address the significant issues that face urban education. The school’s unique blend of innovation and classical methodology offered fresh challenges and new possibilities.”

“Greg brought so many outstanding qualities to our school and has been a central figure in our extraordinary successes. He is a gifted teacher and a leader among faculty and students alike,” said McNeal. “As a classical school, the Socratic method of dialog is central to our teaching practice. As Herron’s Director of Instructional Practice and Teacher Advancement, Greg reminds teachers that if you are not *learning* from your students through engagement, you are not truly *teaching*. Greg leads our teachers to critically examine their practice on a regular basis to deepen their knowledge and broaden their perspectives. This continual process of renewal brings out the best in a person and the best in education.”

AP Language and Composition student Emma Hagenauer agrees. She said, “Mr. Lineweaver wants us to think about things in a different way and go deeper into meanings of what we learn. He expects the best from everyone, and that inspires us to work a little harder and expect more from ourselves.”

McNeal added, “Greg Lineweaver truly exemplifies the best of the teaching profession, and we are deeply grateful to have him on our team.”

For additional information, visit:

<http://www.mff.org/index.taf>

<http://www.mff.org/mea/mea.taf?page=recipient&mealID=23182>

<http://www.mff.org/mea/notif2009.taf?page=slideshow&meid=559&eid=699>

<http://www.mff.org/mea/notif2009.taf?page=videos&vid=1054>

<http://www.doe.in.gov/news/2009/10-October/milken.html>

About Herron High School

Herron High School is a college preparatory school serving the near north side and surrounding communities. Founded in 2005 and located at 16th and Pennsylvania, Herron High School is a public charter school open to all students. Dedicated to providing a classical liberal arts education for students in grades nine through twelve, Herron uses an integrated curriculum and creative methodology which utilizes an art history timeline. This approach aids students in assimilating knowledge by connecting logical relationships between subjects. With small class sizes and individualized attention, Herron’s classical education includes Latin, art, music and rhetoric as well as rigorous math and science classes to provide a truly unique high school experience. With an enrollment of 450 students, Herron High School will graduate its first full class of seniors in 2010. For more information, visit www.herronhighschool.org.

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