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Bethpage Educator Terrence Clark Named One of Nation's Most Innovative Education Leaders

Bethpage School District Assistant Superintendent Receives 2005 Cable's Leaders in Learning Award

Media Note: Awardees are in Washington, DC through May 18 To arrange interviews or receive digital photographs, call contact

Washington, DC – For recognizing that the economy shifting toward more technology-based jobs and creating a curriculum designed to equip students with the skills they need to get those jobs, Terrence Clark is being honored nationally for his substantial contributions to learning in Bethpage.

Cablevision Systems and Cable in the Classroom, the cable industry's education foundation, announced today that Clark is the winner of the new *Cable's Leaders in Learning Award*, which recognizes the most inventive classroom educators, administrators, community leaders, and policymakers who are transforming education from Kindergarten through high school (K-12).

"To be selected as Cable's Leaders in Learning Award winners, these awardees demonstrated dedication to improving learning for all children," said Helen Soulé, Ph.D., executive director of Cable in the Classroom. "They did this by reaching beyond the familiar to support and encourage young people to achieve their best. Armed with a high quality education, young people will be prepared to meet the world that awaits them – and to improve and transform it for their own children."

Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Technology, is being recognized in the Pushing the Envelope award category for creating, via a partnership with Cablevision, the Bethpage Academy of Technology, a high school curriculum providing students an opportunity to earn an Advance Diploma in either Information Technology or New Media. Establishing partnerships with local companies for extended learning opportunities, and integrating courses on a wide variety of software programs and in computer science, Clark is providing high school students with the skills they need to compete in a constantly changing technology-based economy.

Since the Academy's inception, Bethpage Schools now offer courses in Cisco Networking Academy, Java Programming, Advance Placement Computer Science, Multimedia Design, Web Design (required in Grade 8), Advanced Web Design, Computer Graphics, Digital Photography, Computer Architecture, and Computer Assisted Design and a Digital World class for all freshmen.

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“We prepare students with 21st century skills,” said Clark. “We conduct videoconferences around the globe from 2nd grade on up, and students can continue their work at home by accessing our student network remotely.”

Clark and the other *Leaders in Learning Award* winners are in Washington, D.C. this week to attend a gala awards ceremony, to meet with Members of Congress and education leaders, and to participate in a series of professional development events. Awardees receive a cash prize from Cable in the Classroom, in addition to the trip to Washington.

The awards ceremony, hosted by Bill Kurtis, host of A&E’s *American Justice* and producer of *Investigative Reports* and *Cold Case Files*, will take place on May 17 at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian. CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer will interview award-winners during the awards presentations. Marc Summers, host of *Unwrapped* on the Food Network, John Anderson, an ESPN *Sportscenter* anchor, and Jeff Johnson, host of the BET documentary series *The Cousin Jeff Chronicles*, will present the awards. Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert will receive a tribute from the cable industry. Rising stand-up comedian Ted Alexandro will be performing a ten-minute routine.

“We hope that these awards, and the exceptional work on behalf of learning they honor, will move others to strive for similar excellence and stretch the boundaries of the kind of excellence that is possible in education,” said Soulé. “We at Cable in the Classroom will always have that – and these awardees – close to the heart of our mission.”

The awards fall into four categories:

- **General Excellence** – Awards given for general excellence in education.
- **Pushing the Envelope** – Awards given to those redefining the education frontier by using cable content or cable technology.
- **Policymaker** – Awards given to federal, state, or local policymakers who have contributed to the improvement of K-12 education in the broadest sense;
- **Media literacy** – An award given in partnership with the National PTA to recognize excellence in advancing media literacy skills.

For more information about *Cable’s Leaders in Learning Awards*, please visit www.ciconline.org or www.leadersinlearningawards.org.