



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *Friday, February 5, 2010*

Contact: Madeleine Saxler, Communications Intern
School District 197 – West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan
651.403.7022 - office
Madeleine.Saxler@isd197.org

Two District 197 teachers named candidates for Minnesota Teacher of the Year

(Mendota Heights, Minn.) --- The District congratulates **Ikhlas Abdelkhalig**, first grade teacher at Pilot Knob Elementary, and **Tracy Westman**, Physical Education teacher at Somerset Elementary, on being named candidates for Minnesota Teacher of the Year.

One hundred and six teachers have accepted their nominations and completed the required candidate materials to become eligible for the honor of 2010 Minnesota Teacher of the Year. Over the coming weeks, a 22-member panel of community leaders will name a group of semifinalists, and then finalists.

The 2010 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be announced May 2 at The Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park.

For a complete list of candidates, visit the [Education Minnesota](#) web site



*ISD 197 MN Teacher of the Year Candidates:
Left: Ikhlas Abdelkhalig, Pilot Knob
Right: Tracy Westman, Somerset*

####