



Alaska Earth Science Teacher of the Year for 2006

Scott Kluever

The Alaska Earth Science-Teacher-of-the-Year committee of the Alaska Geological Society has chosen Scott Kluever to receive the award for the 2005-2006 school year. Scott is a 7th grade Integrated Science teacher at Clark Middle School in Anchorage, where he is also the Science Department Chairperson. We believe Scott is an exceptional teacher because of his particular ability to develop an attitude of scientific inquiry in young students, and his ability to engage, challenge, and inspire his students to understand the sources of energy they consume in their lives, and to participate in the care of their environment.

Scott Kluever has been a teacher in the Anchorage School District since 1992 and is a dynamic and charismatic educator and leader. Each spring, Scott spends a quarter focusing the attention and learning of his students on the topic of energy and natural resources. They compare and contrast energy resources and create a product that teaches peers and community about renewable and nonrenewable energy resources. They learn about fossil fuels from source to application. They also learn about toxic waste and cleanup of toxic sites. Scott has incorporated field trips to the MLP recovery plant that is located just a few miles down the road from the school so that students can experience first hand part of the journey that the energy used in the students' homes and school takes. Scott helps students to trace the flow of electricity, starting with the burning of natural gas at the Beluga plant to the time when they flip a light switch in their home.

Throughout all his science units, Scott facilitates learning through inquiry-based lessons, which incorporate the student use of science notebooks to record their observations and thinking. The students participate in research, learn to evaluate their results, display data, and draw conclusions in topics that are relevant to energy use and conservation in their own lives. It is clear from the recommendations of numerous colleagues and supervisors that Scott promotes intellectual curiosity and analysis, provides a strong foundation for launching informed citizens, and will likely motivate a few to pursue science as a career.

Scott will be awarded a certificate and \$500 from the Pacific Section of AAPG and the Alaska Geological Society at the AAPG awards luncheon during the joint AAPG-GSA-SPE meeting to be held in Anchorage May 8-11, 2006. The monetary award is intended for Scott to use for classroom materials or personal training. We think Scott is an outstanding candidate for the Pacific Section Science Teacher of the Year award. We have forwarded his application to Pacific Section headquarters where he will compete with candidates from the other Pacific Section societies for up to \$5000 in additional awards from AAPG.