

Overall Guide to Constructing an Outstanding Teacher Portfolio

An Outstanding Teacher portfolio demonstrates your professional excellence and should reflect the purposeful and successful work which you have accomplished throughout the current school year. It is important for all teachers in Douglas County to understand the significance of the Outstanding Teacher Program. The Outstanding Teacher component of the performance pay program is a crucial step in recognizing and rewarding teachers who demonstrate outstanding performance in the classroom. Generally speaking, our district offers all teachers with three years experience the rare opportunity to be paid for professional reflection and growth*. The professional growth you will experience participating in this program is far more valuable than the monetary reward.

As you construct your portfolio, take time to reflect about your teaching; the power of the portfolio is contained in the reflective writing parts. As a teacher reflects and takes time to write about his/her teaching, powerful insights and awareness emerge. Use this portfolio to celebrate your success as an educator and learn more about your strengths as a teacher.

This portfolio is a reflection upon our excellence and therefore should be:

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| Structured | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has a table of contents• is ordered and sequential (follow the portfolio construction guidelines)• is easy to read• is complete |
| Polished | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• well edited• neat• professional |
| Criteria Driven | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• just what needs to be there• focus on artifacts and criteria |

All artifacts must be gathered from the present year.

As this program has grown, there are many Outstanding Teacher portfolios in existence. Check with your principal or school BRT to find examples of portfolios from your grade level or subject area. We encourage you to collaborate with others in a professional manner as you construct your portfolio.

*See eligibility requirements for specific details on who qualifies to participate in the Outstanding Teacher Program.