



## **Moon Area School District**

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### **MAHS Teacher Recognized Nationally for Educational Leadership**

Phi Delta Kappa International, a premier global association of education professionals, has chosen Moon Area High School journalism and English teacher Kyle Burgess as one of the nation's 24 educational leaders.

Burgess will represent Moon Area in the 2009-10 PDK Emerging Leader program that recognizes top educators under age 40 from around the world. A committee made up of PDK's past emerging leaders selected Burgess and 23 other honorees based on professional accomplishments and as well as service, research and leadership abilities. Program participants will be honored formally with other 2009-10 Emerging Leader program peers at the 2009 PDK Summit in Indianapolis this summer.

"My leadership accomplishments all share my student-centered philosophy," Burgess said. "Schools are dynamic places, and helping students learn is only a portion of the larger work to be done."

To apply for Emerging Leader honors, Burgess secured letters of recommendation and submitted a curriculum vita and application materials documenting significant past leadership accomplishments and a plan for future endeavors. Burgess wrote of his innovative plans to lead students and create Moon Area's first broadcast journalism program.

"Middle and high school students need broadcast journalism electives that take the publishing experience beyond ink," Burgess said.

Burgess advises "MoonBeams," the MAHS student newspaper, and co-chairs the MASD professional staff committee tasked with addressing professionalism and district initiatives. He is a Pennsylvania Department of Education Keystone Technology Integrator and a member of PDK International. During his tenure at Moon Area, Burgess was previously the head of the middle school language arts department, where he taught eighth-grade language arts.

Burgess also has worked on character education, school governance and strategic planning committees, and he has served as a representative on the Robert Morris University Teacher Advisory Council. Other career honors include representing the nation at the 2005 Microsoft Innovative Teachers Worldwide Forum and been recognized as an honoree by the Teacher Excellence Center in its 2005-2006 Teacher Recognition Program.

For more information on PDK's 2009-2010 Class of Emerging Leaders, including podcast interviews with the honorees, access [www.pdkemergingleaders.org](http://www.pdkemergingleaders.org).