

# Jeffrey Wright

Louisville Male Traditional High, Louisville, KY

High School Science Education

7th-12th Grade Physics, AP Physics, Physical Science



2005 Honorees



“My classroom practice and environment is innovative and unique because they are a compilation of what I have learned from observing and working with other

effective teachers. I have a banner in my room that states: ‘Tell me, and I will forget; Show me, and I will remember; Involve me, and I will understand.’ Student involvement and understanding is the core of every lesson plan I develop, and daily my students are given a charge to use physics to explain why something occurs or demonstrate how something works. For example, each lesson will begin with ‘Mr. Wright’s daily diversion of trivial scientific facts of knowledge!’ This ‘diversion’ is usually just a trivial fact, question, or discrepant event that the students find interesting, and I use as a sponge to soak them into the topic of the day’s lesson. I usually try to make the sponge questions ones that I know most students often wonder about, and therefore spark the innate interests of the kids.”

“I want my classroom to be one of discovery, but also of scientific investigation which includes a hypothesis, experiment, data, and conclusion. I believe I often teach lab exercises backwards. For example, after the ‘diversion’ I may lecture or have a class discussion about the concept that I want them to learn. In essence, the students know the answer before the lab begins, but it is the students job to work together in groups and devise a way to prove the scientific theory and then answer the daily question. I find the students learn more designing their own experiments, as opposed to following the steps written for them in a manual without explanations as to why.” – *Jeffrey Wright*

“Mr. Wright has touched the heart of every Physics student at Louisville Male High School. He has the ability to give students that ‘spark’ which they can take with them in anything they do. It is his love of teaching that makes his students want to learn. With a brilliant imagination, Mr. Wright inspires his students by presenting demonstrations that confirm an understanding of each lecture. From burning potato chips to exploding two-liter bottles by adding dry ice, students become so involved with excitement and curiosity that they forget they’re in a classroom learning how many calories are in one Lays chip and how pressure increases as volume decreases.” – *Former student*



## Other Highlights:

WHAS-AM/LG&E Energy Foundation Excel Award

Ashland Oil Teacher Achievement Award

University of Chicago Outstanding Teacher Award

Member, National Science Teachers Association

Member, Kentucky Association of Physics Teachers

Member, National Board of Professional Certified Teachers

Member, Louisville Area Physics Alliance

Member, Jefferson County Teachers Association

Member, National Education Association and Kentucky Education Association

Years Teaching: 15

Average Class Size: 30

Classes Taught Per Day: 6

School’s Percent of ESL Students: 0

School Type: Public, Large City

Type of Class: Self-contained