

2006 HONOREE

## Douglas Dillion

Honey Creek Middle School, Terre Haute, IN  
Applied Fields Education • 6th-8th Grade Technology Education



**Years Teaching:** 13

**Average Class Size:** 19

**Classes Taught Per Day:** 7

**School's % of ESL Students:** 1%

**School Type:** Public, Med. City

**Type of Class:** Inclusion

“Everything in my room has a purpose, or at least a story. I purchased a four-player demolition derby arcade game and have it in my classroom with a sign above it explaining what score students have to earn to play it. For example, if they earn above 96% on the measuring test or above 94% on a technology-learning unit, they will get the opportunity to play the game on the last day of the quarter. I pride myself on my lab’s uniqueness, whether it be my interactive SmartBoard, my collection of singing fish, my chrome bee, or the pink panther that is trying to sneak in through the duct work. My lab has pods in one section where students can explore various careers, while another section is designed for research, design, and construction of specific activities. Having a well-designed lab, efficient and exciting curriculum, and lots of enthusiasm are the keys to my program’s success.”

“My wife and I are fortunate to have two wonderful children. The day my first child was born, my perception of my students and the way I communicated with the parents changed. Now that they are both in school, I



find my classroom procedures continue to evolve. As a parent, hearing my children describe their day at school and communicating with their teachers have made me a better teacher. All kids like school or at least liked it at one time. It is my job to find that magic in each student that will make them like my class and want to learn.”

“Mr. Dillion is definitely my favorite teacher. He is fair, but strict. He’s always fun to be around and almost always has a crooked grin on his face. He is very determined and enthusiastic. He always has new ideas and a solution for every situation. I have never seen him give up on a project. Mr. Dillion also gives much of his time to his students. For Christmas this year, I wanted to build my little sister a dollhouse. Mr. Dillion said that he was making his daughter one and that he would be glad to help. He has helped me build the best dollhouse I have ever seen.”

— *current student*

### OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:

National Associate of the Year Nominee - NAHB (2005) • National Program Excellence Award - ITEA (2005) • Don C. Cassidy, Sr., Indiana Associate of the Year - IBA (2005) • Jack Dempsey Associate of the Year - HBATH (2005) • The State Program Excellence Award - TEI (2004) • John E. Grey Meritorious Teaching Award - TEI (2004) • Jack Dempsey Associate of the Year - HBATH (2003) • The Excellence in Education Award - VCEF (1999) • Author, Tech Town USA • Establishing, “Best U” Foundation • Project Author, IDOE TECCA • Curriculum Committee, IDOE • Board of Directors, NAHB • Education Chair, IBA • Area VP, IBA • District Chair, TEI • Chapter Advisor, TSA • Education Chair, HBATH • Member, ITEA