



Everything Michigan

## Black River Public School educator named Michigan charter school teacher of the year

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**Dave Murray | The Grand Rapids Press**

By

HOLLAND – A **Black River Public School** educator was named 2011 Michigan Charter School Teacher of the Year on Tuesday at the annual Michigan Charter School Conference in Detroit.

Peter Middleton, a visual arts teacher, has been at Black River for 10 years.

In a video about the five finalists prepared by the Michigan Association of Public School Academies, Middleton was praised by students for his energy and drive to make them do their best.

"I like to sit in on his art lectures because I learn something every time," **Dean of Students John Donnelly said in the video.**

"Everyday I listen in I learn something different. He helps people explore their creative genius."

Black River's jazz orchestra performed at Tuesday's awards ceremony in Cobo Hall. The band played at the Lincoln Center in New York earlier this year.

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Black River Public School teacher Peter Middleton accepting his Charter School Teacher of the Year on Tuesday.