

Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association Award Winners



2013

Category: Classroom Educator Award

Name, position, institution:

Bill Dunn, Science Teacher
Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Profile

MAMEA was pleased to honor Captain William H. Dunn of Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School with the 2013 Classroom Educator Award at the annual conference in Gloucester Point, Virginia on November 2, 2013.

After spending more than 30 years serving in the U.S. Navy, Captain Dunn accepted a position as a science teacher at Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School in Virginia Beach, VA. With a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Washington, a Master of Science degree from Old Dominion University, an Educational Specialist degree from the University of Virginia, and as a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College of the National Defense University and the Royal College of Defence Studies in London,

Dunn is a highly qualified educator. In May of 2005, he was appointed to chair the science department. Since becoming chair, he has expanded the AP science offerings from only AP Biology to include every AP science offering and he established a dual enrollment class in conjunction with the State University of New York, College at Oneonta.

Bill was instrumental in establishing a summer residential class for credit in coastal marine biology in cooperation with the Marine Science Consortium on Virginia's Eastern Shore. He teaches or has taught Earth Science, Oceanography, and Bioethics. He assisted in writing the Diocese of Richmond science standards for all Catholic high schools in the diocese school system. In November of 2006, he received the Award for Outstanding Teaching in Earth Science in Virginia, presented by the Virginia Association of Science Teachers.

Dunn is also well known for his participation in the Blue Crab Bowl, Virginia's regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. He has coached the Bishop Sullivan science team to six consecutive first places finishes, three consecutive third place finishes, and a fourth place slot.

In addition to these accomplishments, Bill was the founding faculty moderator of the student Honor Council, a student run honor system. He also serves as the faculty representative to the school board. Several educators credit Dunn with helping them to improve their teaching strategies. In addition to being highly involved with MAMEA, Dunn is a member of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers, the National Science Teachers Association, the National Marine Educators Association, the National Earth Science Teachers Association, the Earth Science Opportunity Program, and the Virginia Association of Science Teachers.

Photo: Captain William H. Dunn of Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School receives MAMEA's 2013 Classroom Educator Award from out-going MAMEA President, Kathy Fuller (left) at the Annual Conference in November.
Credit: Carol Hopper Brill

