



Contact: Amy Vaerewyck 317/940-8162
Holly Baker 317/940-9821

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**2000 INDIANA STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR
TO SPEAK AT BUTLER UNIVERSITY**

INDIANAPOLIS – Kathy Politz, the 2000 Indiana State Teacher of the Year, will speak Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Atherton Union Reilly Room, 704 W. Hampton Dr. Politz's speech, "Teaching from the Heart: Becoming an Effective Teacher," will last 45 minutes, followed by a question/answer session and refreshments.

A native of Kokomo, Politz earned a B.S. in elementary education as well as an M.S. in early childhood from Indiana State University. She has taught preschool, kindergarten and first-grade classes at various Indiana schools. She is currently a teacher-in-residence with the Indiana Department of Education. Other honors she has received include Vigo County's Teacher of the Year and Excellence in Education awards.

Politz was named Indiana State Teacher of the Year based on, among other things, her ability to inspire learning and to work cooperatively with fellow professionals. A member of numerous education organizations, Politz collaborated with others to create the "Family Friday" home/school connection program. According to Politz, teaching is about making a difference. "Who knows," she said, "I may have held the hand of a future president or tied the shoes of the next Larry Bird or a Nobel Prize winner."

The event is sponsored by the Student Education Association and the Student Government Association.