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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: February 26, 2010

**Blue Valley West journalism instructor named Kansas Master Teacher**

Michael Dunlap, Blue Valley West journalism teacher, was named a 2010 Emporia State University Kansas Master Teacher.

Established by Emporia State University in 1953, the annual Master Teacher award is presented to teachers who have served the profession long and well and who typify the qualities of earnest and conscientious teachers. Dunlap is one of seven teachers in the state honored with this award this year. He is also the 16<sup>th</sup> Blue Valley teacher to earn the recognition.

Dunlap is the third Blue Valley West faculty member to be recognized as a Master Teacher since the school's founding in 2001. Former art teacher Larry Wayland was honored in 2005, and science teacher Ken Bingman received the award in 2009.

Dunlap has been working at Blue Valley West since 2001. He received his bachelor's degree from Northwest Missouri State University.

"Mike has built one of the best journalism and yearbook programs in the country," said Tony Lake, Blue Valley West principal. "What makes Mike an amazing educator is his ability to establish high expectations in his classroom, and his natural ability to build meaningful relationships with his students."

Dunlap will be honored on March 31 as part of Master Teacher Day in Emporia. After a luncheon with university officials, he will take part in a panel discussion for education students and community members. His Master Teacher plaque will be presented at an awards ceremony that night.

"It is an incredible honor to be selected as a Master Teacher," Dunlap said. "The number of recipients from Blue Valley is reflective of the high quality of our teaching staff. I'm certainly proud to be among them."