The 2012 recipient of the NYS AHPERD Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award is Colleen Mickle. Colleen received her bachelor of education degree in physical education from SUNY Cortland and her master of science degree in elementary education from Russell Sage College. She has been an elementary physical education teacher at Guilderland Elementary School for the past 26 years. Colleen has coached cross country, track and field, volleyball and soccer and is the coordinator of the district wide elementary ski club. She is the creator and head coordinator of Hooked on Health, a district wide wellness committee. She had significant input in creating, writing and revising the current district wellness policy. She has served on the District Interview Committee, the physical education district cabinet, and is a member of the district physical education curriculum revision committee. Her gymnasium is a reflection of her enthusiasm for her program and her students. Her encouraging teaching style and intense work ethic are two of the reasons she has had a far-reaching, positive influence on the lives of her students. Colleen has coordinated a running club for 4th and 5th grades, entertainment for the PTA Harvest Dinner and Ice Cream Social and she has coordinated a Jump Rope For Heart event for the past 10 years. She is an active member of NYS AHPERD. She has been the Elementary Student Leadership Program Coordinator for the Capital Zone for the past twelve years and has been a long time volunteer planning and organizing the Capital Zone Conference. She has presented at the NYS AHPERD and Vermont AHPERD Conferences, the Capital Zone Conference and has presented to the Guilderland Board of Education and at NYS Teacher Center, Professional Development days. Colleen was honored with the Capital Zone Elementary Teacher of the Year Award, PE Central Best Practice Blue Ribbon Award, WTEN Educator of Excellence Award and the Guilderland Staff Recognition Award. Colleen’s colleague said, “Colleen is student centered, grounded in solid teaching protocols and knowledge, and flavors her classroom with energy, excitement, and fun always with authentic, quality teaching and assessment.” President Quitoni, it is my honor to present to you the recipient of the 2012 Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award, Colleen Mickle.