



## Mallinson Institute for Science Education

**Kathy J. Mirakovits, MS '98**

**K-12 Educator, Forensic Science**

Mirakovits is a leading K-12 educator in the state of Michigan. She began her teaching career in 1976 and specializes in teaching physics and forensic science. She has taught at three different high schools, most recently serving for 21 years at Portage Northern High School. She is also a national innovator in developing forensic science courses at the high school level.

Mirakovits is co-author of a textbook and lab manual on forensic science and has been giving workshops on forensic science for teachers since 2004. She has received many awards for her teaching, including the Radio Shack National Teacher Award, State Finalist Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, and the Distinguished Service Award from the Michigan Chapter of the American Association of Physics Teachers. She is also a regular mentor of preservice and newly employed teachers. It is through this passion for supporting teachers that in 2002 she co-founded and, with the support of her colleagues at Portage Northern High School, ran the Southwest Michigan Science Educators Symposium for many years.

In addition to teaching Mirakovits has held many state-level leadership positions, including serving as president of the Michigan section of the American Association of Physics Teachers, chair of the Physics Writing Committee for the High School Science Content Expectations Clarification Documents, and a director for the Michigan Science Teachers Association for more than 10 years.

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