




NJDOE News

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State Board of Education Recognizes Principals of the Year

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Commissioner of Education William L. Librera today introduced to the State Board of Education the nine public school principals from across New Jersey who were selected for honors in this year's *Principal of the Year Program*. Now in its second year, the program is designed to recognize exemplary school leadership.

"It is an honor and a pleasure for me to recognize the nine principals selected for New Jersey's Principal of the Year Award," Commissioner Librera said. "This program, known as the *New Jersey Principals of the Year Program: Rewarding Visionary Leadership*, honors principals who have demonstrated strong leadership and visionary capabilities and have successfully motivated teachers and staff in ways that clearly have resulted in improved student performance. These exemplary individuals represent three levels of education, elementary, middle, and secondary, in the three regions of the state.

"The principals we recognize today have demonstrated their leadership and effectiveness throughout their school years," Dr. Librera said. "I commend them for their success and encourage local school leaders to follow their example."

The *New Jersey Principals of the Year Program: Rewarding Visionary Leadership*, is a partnership of the Department of Education with the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the Business Coalition for Educational Excellence, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and the higher education community.

Each principal selected will receive two awards: a \$10,000 stipend from Goals 2000 federal education funds and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation that may be applied to school-based improvements and professional development opportunities; and a \$500 unrestricted grant from the Business Coalition for Educational Excellence.

In return for accepting the honor and stipends, the principals will assume responsibility for a special service of their choosing during their term of office. For example, they may decide to serve as adjunct professors or distinguished lecturers at colleges or universities, advise the Department of Education on educational policy issues, conduct research at the local or state level, or sponsor an open-house at the principal's school where visitors learn about innovative school practices.

[Attached is a list and biographical information on the nine principals.](#)

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