



The MASA Polaris Leadership Award

The Minnesota Association of School Administrators, with the support of Ehlers and Associates, Inc., is pleased to sponsor the Polaris Leadership Award, presented each fall in recognition of exemplary school leadership by an MASA member with twenty or more years of administrative experience.

The Award

The award is presented at the MASA Fall Conference.

The recipient receives a recognition plaque and a monetary award.

The recipient will be asked to address the conference attendees.

A news release will be distributed to pertinent media in the coverage area of the recipient.

Selection Procedure

Nominees may be self-nominated or nominated by another member of MASA.

Nominations must be made on the official MASA form available through the MASA office by the deadline date noted on the form.

The MASA Executive Committee will select an annual recipient.

Section Criteria

The recipient must be a current active or associate member of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators.

The recipient will have at least twenty years of successful educational administrative experience. Administrative experience may include the principalship, central office administration, and/or the superintendency.

The recipient shall have demonstrated the following attributes or characteristics throughout their career:

- professional courage leading to positive change
- creation of a legacy of excellent leadership
- a lifelong career contribution of commitment to excellence on behalf of all students
- exemplifying positive reasons that a person would choose to practice
- fostering innovation and ideas that make a difference for students and the school community
- a lifetime of balanced achievement inside and outside of education
- contribution to the practice of educational leadership through example and mentoring
- exemplary conduct reflecting integrity and bearing emulation
- significant tenure in each position to support district vision and affect positive change.

MASA is a member service organization of over 500 school leaders such as superintendents, directors of special education, curriculum directors, other central office administrators, and service providers. As advocates for children, MASA's educational leaders establish the statewide agenda for children, serve as the preeminent voice for public education, and empower members through quality services and support.

Previous Recipients

2020 Jeff Olson

2019 Jerry Ness

2018 Lynne Kovash

2017 Karen Orcutt

2016 James Hess

2015 Chris Richardson

2014 Jerald Nesland

2013 Ric Dressen

2012 Wendy Shannon

2011 Jack Almos

2010 Harold Remme

2009 Greg Vandal

2008 Roger Giroux

Minnesota Association

Our Common Agenda:



Children

of School Administrators

NOTE: Please save to your computer before using the text boxes to fill out the form.

The MASA Polaris Leadership Award Nomination Form

If you are nominating someone other than yourself for this award, it is recommended that you notify that person of the nomination.

Date _____

Nominee's Name _____

Job Title and Organization _____

Email _____

List those who should be notified if this person is selected - media contacts, communications staff, board chair, etc.:

Name	Organization	Email
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Biographical & Background Information

Please list or provide a brief description of the nominee's **employment history, educational background, professional organizational involvement and leadership roles outside of their district/organization, and honors and/or awards received.**

Please spell out any organizational acronyms. (Limit to last five years). This information will be used in the news release if the nominee is selected for this award. Please attach an electronic copy of the biographical and background information to your submission email.

Selection Questions

Please provide a description of **why you believe the nominee is deserving of consideration for this award.** Please include examples of the nominee's **legacy of excellent leadership, specific achievements within their district, and positive contributions towards Minnesota public education.** Please attach an electronic copy of the selection questions to your submission email.

Return the nomination application via email to dave.christians@mnasa.org by January 11, 2021.