Staff Recognition Awards

OVERVIEW

Kettle Moraine School District is recognized for excellence in education at the local, regional, state, and national levels. To earn this reputation, it requires dedicated people with a commitment to collaboration, continuous improvement and innovation. Our district’s vision of Learning without Boundaries sets the direction for our staff to provide our students with opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that they will need for success in a global society. We thank our staff and community for their dedication toward helping our students succeed. With that in mind, it is our privilege to recognize the efforts of staff and community members and to continue to celebrate excellence within Kettle Moraine.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Staff Recognition Awards is to recognize and celebrate excellence within our district.

OBJECTIVES

- To celebrate our staff and community and our work
- To promote excellence
- To identify and recognize the accomplishments and achievements of staff
- To encourage collaborative work
- To provide staff models for continued professional growth
- To increase staff and community pride in the Kettle Moraine School District
- To celebrate our work
CATEGORIES

**EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD - with a focus on Leadership**
This award recognizes teaching excellence within the Kettle Moraine School District. It is awarded to one staff member who demonstrates high-level teaching skills, student engagement, and achievement in cognitive and non-cognitive areas of student growth and development. A consistent focus on creating an educational environment that promotes excellence in learning and engagement. This recognition is awarded to an educator who pioneers a vision of transformation and demonstrates opportunities for personalized learning for their students in their everyday learning environment. This educator impacts colleagues through collaboration, leadership, and modeling of excellence.

**INNOVATOR AWARD**
This award recognizes the educator that embraces innovation, modeling new and transformative practices within their learning space. It is awarded to an individual or team that is exploring different instructional practices in order to personalize learning and transform how educators teach, how students think, collaborate, and demonstrate their learning. This individual or team can be defined as risk takers and next generation learners. It recognizes the individual or team that demonstrates collaboration to achieve goals and contributes to the collective work of leading this district forward, setting the way for other districts to follow.

**CONTINUOUS LEARNER AWARD**
This award recognizes a track record of continuous learning in and out of the classroom. This recognition is awarded to an individual or team that demonstrates the importance of learning in order to enhance the classroom experience. This individual or team continues to reinvent themselves and applies what they are learning in their classroom. Through discussion and collaboration with colleagues and/or with other educators and state and/or national leaders, this educator or team recognizes the impact of collective wisdom in the educational process and how it is a foundational element in planning our future. This award recognizes the staff member or team that continues to further their education and openly shares their learning with others...a true example of Learning Without Boundaries.

**PARTNER IN EDUCATION AWARD**
This award recognizes an individual, a business member in our school community, or a partner who plays a vital role in educating our staff and/or students, enhancing and supporting the district’s vision. This recognition is awarded to a partner that is committed to assisting us to achieve goals, enriching student learning, and furthering
the opportunities of today's learners. This partner models the behavior that demonstrates to our students how to assume responsibility and how volunteerism and/or engaging in goodwill efforts makes a difference in the community and/or world.

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARD**

This award recognizes an individual or team that demonstrates excellence in providing support for students and colleagues through their uncompromising work and relentless support within our district. This individual or team truly epitomizes our vision of Learning Without Boundaries as displayed by their work ethic and commitment to Kettle Moraine. Going over and above their duties, demonstrating excellence in providing support, recognizing work being done for the betterment of the district and/or community. This award recognizes an individual or team who provides both the model and the inspiration for others.

**PROCESS FOR NOMINATION**

The Staff Recognition Awards are designed to recognize the hard work and dedication of our entire staff, volunteers and our community business partners. Nominations are to be submitted for an individual, or when appropriate, for a team. Nominations of departments or buildings will not be considered as the focus is to highlight individual or team achievement.

Nominations should be submitted on the attached form to the Teaching & Learning Department on or before the last day of school. Nominations that are sent or delivered to the Teaching & Learning Department should be placed in an envelope to protect confidentiality.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE**

The Staff Recognition Selection Committee is made up of individuals who have been past award recipients. The Committee convenes during the summer under the direction of the Superintendent. All nominations are reviewed and recipients for each category, if applicable, are selected.

The Committee reserves the right to withhold an award if nominations for a specific award category are not available or if criteria for a specific award category has not been met.
AWARD PRESENTATION

Staff Recognition Awards are presented during the All Staff In-service at the beginning of the school year prior to the first day of school. These awards represent the work and success of the prior school year.

A portion of each nomination for each recipient will be shared by the Superintendent. Recipients are invited to receive their award on stage and are asked to provide the audience with a 1-2 minute acknowledgement about what the award means to them and their work. Names of nominators will not be shared with the staff or community. This information will be known to the Committee and made available to the recipient upon request.
STAFF RECOGNITION AWARD
NOMINATION FORM

NOMINEE NAME(S)_____________________________________________________________

POSITION _________________________

SCHOOL ________________

CATEGORY (Check one category please):

- EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
- INNOVATOR AWARD
- CONTINUOUS LEARNER AWARD
- PARTNER IN EDUCATION AWARD
- MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARD

NOMINATION SUMMARY: (Feel free to attach Nomination Summary(ies) to this form).

Signature
Nominator(s)____________________________________________________________

Please return Nomination Form to the Teaching & Learning Department on or before the last day of school. Please contact Kristine Sterkowitz with any questions at ext. 5307 or via email at sterkowk@kmsd.edu.