

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: November 18, 2014

To: Principals, Childhood Development Center Administrators and SDEA Representatives

Subject: SITE TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Department and/or Persons Concerned: Principals, Childhood Development Center Administrators, SDEA Representatives and all members of the school community

Due Date: **Thursday, January 22, 2015 by 5 p.m.** – Nominee for Site Teacher of the Year (Attachment 1)

Reference: National Teacher Day (May 5, 2015)

Action Requested:

1. Print and distribute a copy of the circular and attachment to the school's SDEA representative (or principal designee, if there is no school site SDEA representative)
2. Identify **one** teacher, selected by teachers, from grades PK-12 to represent site at the district's May 5, 2015, Day of the Teacher celebration.
3. Submit name of Site Teacher of the Year by **5 p.m. on Thurs., Jan. 22, 2015.** (Attachment 1)
4. Encourage the Site Teacher of the Year to apply for District Teacher of the Year, if eligible (applications will be made available to all eligible site nominees).

Brief Explanation:

On May 5, 2015, San Diego Unified School District will recognize National Teacher Day. The district's Day of the Teacher celebration will be held as a special off-site Board of Education meeting, allowing honorees, guests, board members and the district leadership team to celebrate in a casual environment. During the celebration, school Site Teachers of the Year will be honored and the San Diego Unified School District Teacher of the Year awardees will be announced.

Quality teachers provide the foundation for student learning and achievement, supporting the district's mission that all students will graduate with the skills, motivation, curiosity and resilience to succeed and be active participants in society. Effective teaching in every classroom is central to Vision 2020 and creating Quality Schools in Every Neighborhood. The district's definition of a quality teacher aligns with the five core propositions the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards uses to measure teaching excellence.

When selecting your site nominee, ask yourself “Which site teacher best embodies these principles?”

- Teachers are committed to students and their learning.
- Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students.
- Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.
- Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.
- Teachers are members of learning communities.

Each site SDEA representative (or principal designee, if there is no site SDEA representative) should hold nominations and conduct a secret ballot to select the school’s Site Teacher of the Year. Submitting nominations and voting are limited to teachers at the site. Nominees should be fully credentialed classroom teachers whose primary responsibility is teaching students. **Only one nomination can be submitted per school site.** Previous site Teachers of the Year and District Teacher of the Year Runners-up can be nominated and selected again, however, former or current district Teacher of the Year awardees are not eligible. Resource teachers are not eligible.

Once the selection is made, the name of the Site Teacher of Year (Attachment 1) should be submitted to the Communications Department by **5 p.m. on Thurs., Jan. 22, 2015**. Site nominees have the option, but are strongly encouraged, to apply for the District Teacher of the Year award **if they meet the criteria listed below**. Application packets for District Teacher of the Year will be available to all eligible site nominees on **Fri., Jan. 23, 2014** and **due by 5 p.m. on Wed., Feb. 18, 2015**.

Qualifications for District Teacher of the Year (comparable to county/state application):

1. Fully credentialed teacher with at least 6 years classroom experience in San Diego Unified and 8 total years of teaching (you may be in your sixth and eighth years), who 1) teaches grades Pre K-12; or 2) teaches adults, providing instruction in the same curriculum as elementary/secondary grades; or 3) instructs with some administrative responsibilities but for whom teaching students is the primary responsibility.
2. Teacher who plans to continue in an active teaching status.
3. Teacher who is willing to apply for S.D. County Teacher of the Year if selected district winner or runner-up. Teacher shall be available to fulfill ambassadorial duties during the year of service and serve on the Teacher of the Year selection committee for two years.

Submit Site Teacher of the Year Nomination Forms (Attachment 1) to Jennifer Rodriguez in the Communications Department by **5 p.m. on Thurs., Jan. 22, 2015**, by email jcornelius@sandi.net; by fax to 619-725-5576; or by school mail to the Education Center, Room 2145. If you need additional information or have questions regarding the site or district Teacher of the Year process, contact Jennifer Cornelius at 619-725-5598 or jcornelius@sandi.net.

Linda Zintz, Director
Communications Department

APPROVED:



Ursula Kroemer
Office of the Chief Public Information Officer

LZ:jr
Attachment (1)

Ref. Administrative Circular No. 36

Attachment 1

Site Nomination for Teacher of the Year

Dear SDEA Representative/Principal Designee:

It's time to select your school's 2015 Site Teacher of the Year. Please solicit nominations and conduct a secret ballot to select your site's Teacher of the Year before the **site nomination deadline of 5 p.m. on Thurs, Jan. 22, 2015**. Only teachers should nominate and vote. Nominees should be fully credentialed classroom teachers whose primary responsibility is teaching students. **Only one nomination can be submitted per school site**. Previous Site Teachers of the Year and District Teacher of the Year Runners-ups can be nominated and selected again, however, former or current district Teacher of the Year awardees are not eligible. **Please note:** To apply for District Teacher of the Year, site nominees must have at least 6 years classroom experience in San Diego Unified (you may be in your sixth year of teaching) and 8 total years of teaching (you may be in your eighth year of teaching).

All school site Teachers of the Year will be honored at the Day of the Teacher celebration on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. **Please provide ALL the information requested in the form below**. If your site does not have a nominee, please check the appropriate box and submit the form.

SCHOOL NAME:

No Site Nominee

Phone:

SITE TEACHER OF THE YEAR:

No. of years teaching at San Diego Unified:

No. of years total teaching experience:

Direct phone:

E-mail:

SDEA Representative/Principal Designee:

Direct phone:

E-mail:

Principal's Name:

E-mail:

Deadline for nominations is Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015 by 5 p.m.

Send to Jennifer Cornelius Rodriguez, Communications Department, via one of the following:

Email: jcornelius@sandi.net • Fax: 619-725-5576 • School mail: Education Center, Room 2145

SDEA Representative & Principal will be notified via email that your submission has been received.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Cornelius Rodriguez at 619-725-5598 or jcornelius@sandi.net.