

October 15, 2020

Ms. Cynthia Simonson
President, Montgomery County Council
of Parent Teacher Associations
P.O. Box 10754
500 N. Washington Street
Rockville, Maryland 20849

Dear Ms. Simonson:

I am pleased to announce that nominations for the 2021 award season are now being accepted. These awards are designed to honor the highest qualities and most significant accomplishments of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) teachers and principals. The awards for consideration are as follows:

Marian Greenblatt Excellence in Education Awards

The Marian Greenblatt Excellence in Education Master Teacher Award recognizes three full-time teachers in kindergarten through Grade 12 who have a demonstrated record of promoting student success, such as closing the achievement gap. One award winner will be named for each level: elementary, middle, and high school.

The Marian Greenblatt Excellence in Education Rising-Star Teacher Award recognizes a **first-, second-, third-, or fourth-year** full-time teacher in kindergarten through Grade 12 who has a demonstrated record of promoting student success. This teacher contributes to a professional learning community of students, staff, parent/guardians, and community.

The *Washington Post* Teacher of the Year Award (formerly Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award)

The *Washington Post* Teacher of the Year Award recognizes a full-time teacher in prekindergarten through Grade 12 who instills in students a desire to learn and achieve. He or she demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the subject matter and possesses the ability to share it effectively with students. The nominee fosters cooperative relationships with his/her colleagues and the community and demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities.

The Shirley J. Lowrie "Thank You for Teaching" Award

The Shirley J. Lowrie "Thank You for Teaching" Award honors extraordinary elementary school teachers who have a deep dedication to the teaching profession. These elementary school teachers, prekindergarten through Grade 5, must work directly with students in the classroom on a daily basis, demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the subject matter, and effectively communicate that subject matter to students.

The *Washington Post* Principal of the Year Award (formerly Distinguished Educational Leadership Award (DELA))

The *Washington Post* Principal of the Year Award recognizes those principals who go beyond the day-to-day demands of their position to create an exceptional educational environment. In presenting these awards, The Washington Post Educational Foundation hopes to encourage excellence in school leadership and to contribute in a substantive way to the improvement of education in the Washington metropolitan area.

Superintendent's Annual Mark Mann Excellence and Harmony Award

The Mark Mann Award, established in 1991, honors MCPS principals who excel in promoting academic excellence, positive human relations, and community outreach.

Each award is unique and has specific nomination guidelines. To access nomination materials, including specific guidelines and criteria, please visit the MCPS website at:—

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/personnel/awards/>

In order to provide all nominees with the same opportunity, nomination packet requirements must be followed, and only the number of pages and the information requested will be considered. - Nomination materials for **Marian Greenblatt Excellence in Education Awards** must be received by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021**. - Nomination materials for all other awards must be received no later than **4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021**. Please share this information with local Parent Teacher Associations.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Casey B.— Crouse, administrator on special assignment, Office of Human Resources and Development, at 301-279-3900, or via e-mail.

Sincerely,



Helen A. Nixon, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent

HAN:ml-s

Copy to:
Dr. McKnight
Ms. Crouse