
Philip B. Swain Excellence in Education Award

The Alliance for Education is seeking nominations for the *Philip B. Swain Excellence in Education Award*. The award, created in 2000, recognizes the efforts of Seattle Public Schools' teachers and counselors, particularly those increasing equity in their schools and committed to closing opportunity gaps. Nominees must come from secondary schools serving high percentages of students eligible for free or reduced lunch. The award was established in memory of Philip B. Swain, a passionate advocate for public education throughout his life. His commitment to public service included fourteen years as a member of the Seattle School Board (1961-1975).

In 2019, **two teachers and one counselor** will be selected to receive the Swain Award, which includes a \$1,000 stipend. The \$1000 stipend may be used at the awardee's discretion for continuing professional development, for travel associated with such development, and for classroom projects or supplies.

Criteria for nomination include:

- Teachers/Counselors in grades 6-12 who have been with the district at least three years;
- Teachers/Counselors from schools where, for at least two of the past three years, the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-lunch is 40% or higher (*Please see the list of eligible schools on the distribution list below*);
- Teachers/Counselors who play an active and successful role in closing opportunity gaps for students, and recognize that all students can excel;
- Teachers/Counselors who play a leadership role with their peers in encouraging a commitment to, and sharing best practices toward, advancing equity in their school.

Teacher and counselors may be nominated by students, families, colleagues, principals or other Seattle Public Schools administrators. If a principal is not the nominator, we request a brief letter of recommendation from the principal.

Eligible Schools:

Aki Kurose MS Academy (Mia Williams)
Broadview-Thomson K-8 School (RJ Sammons)
Chief Sealth HS (Aida Fraser-Hammer)
Cleveland HS (George Breland)
Denny International School (Jeff Clark)
Franklin HS (Andrew O'Connell)
Interagency Academy (Kaaren Andrews)
Licton Springs K-8 (Lisa Allphin)

Madrona K-8 School (Mary McDaniel)
Meany MS (Chanda E. Oatis)
Mercer MS (Chris Carter)
Rainier Beach HS (Keith Smith)
Seattle World School (Dr. Bruno Cross)
South Lake HS (Laura Davis Brown)
South Shore K-8 School (Justin Hendrickson)
Washington MS (Emily Butler Ginolfi)

The deadline for submitting completed nomination forms is May 1.

Nomination:

To submit a nomination, please respond to the following prompts. Nominations can be submitted to Zeynab Abdulqadir at zeynab@alliance4ed.org, or via mail to 509 Olive Way, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101.

Teacher/Counselor Nominee Name: _____

School: _____

Grade(s) served: _____

Number of years as a teacher in grades 6-12 in SPS (min. 3 years): _____

Nominator(s) Name: _____

Nominator contact info: _____

Please respond to each of the following statements (**maximum of ½ page for each**):

- Give a specific example of a gap-closing, innovative strategy that this individual has used to support student success.
- Describe how this individual demonstrates, through his/her teaching, a belief that *all* young people can excel.
- Give an example of this individual's leadership with colleagues in advancing equity for students.

Nomination Deadline

The deadline for submitting completed nomination forms is May 1. Please direct any questions to Zeynab Abdulqadir at zeynab@alliance4ed.org or 206.205.0324.

Award recipients will be notified in the spring and celebrated at the end of the school year along with their nominating principal. All who are nominated will receive a certificate of recognition. Thank you in advance for your support of this educator recognition opportunity!