

Nevada Association of School Boards Award Recipients



1997 – Fallon

School Board of the Year—Elko County School District Board of Trustees
Board Member of the Year (statewide)—Cheri Johnson, Douglas County School District
Board Member of the Year (local)—Paul Hinz, Churchill County School District
Administrator of the Year—Harold Ridgeway, Elko County School District

1998 – Las Vegas

School Board—Washoe County School District Board of Trustees
Board Member (statewide)—Don Forrester, Douglas County School District
Board Member (local)—Vicki Jones, Churchill County School District
Administrator—Geraldine Harge, Nye County School District

1999 – Elko

School Board—White Pine County School District Board of Trustees
Board Member (statewide)—Anne Loring, Washoe County School District
Board Member (local)—Ann Gustin, Elko County School District
Administrator—Dr. Brian Cram, Clark County School District

2000 – Pahrump

School Board—Mineral County School District Board of Trustees
Board Member (statewide)—Joan Westover, Lander County School District
Board Member (local)—Debra Zayac, Churchill County School District
Administrator—Marcia Bandera, Elko County School District

2001 – Lovelock

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Board—Pershing County School District Board of Trustees
School Administrator—Rick Kester, Douglas County School District
Veteran Board Member—Ruth Johnson, Clark County School District
New Board Member—Curt Chapman, Storey County School District

Leadership Award:

Board Member—Georgeanna Smith, Elko County School District
School Board—Clark County School District Board of Trustees
Superintendent of the Year—Dan Fox, Pershing County School District
NASB Director of the Year—Nancy Hollinger, Washoe County School District
NASB Officer of the Year—Anne Loring, Washoe County School District

2002 – Las Vegas

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Board—White Pine County School District Board of Trustees
School Administrator—Walt Rulffes, Superintendent, Clark County School District

Veteran Board Member—Marilyn Fendelander, Washoe County School District
New Board Member—Glen Terry, White Pine County School District

Leadership Awards:

Board Member—Shirley Barber, Clark County School District
Superintendent of the Year—Ron Flores, Churchill County School District
NASB Director of the Year—Paul Hinz, Churchill County School District
NASB Officer of the Year—Murry Whipple, Lincoln County School District

2003 – Sparks

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Administrators—Joyce Haldeman, Clark County School District; Dr. Dotty Merrill, Washoe County School District
Veteran Board Member—Susan Brager Wellman, Clark County School District
New School Board Member—Dennis Keating, Nye County School District

Leadership Awards:

Board Member—Irene Chachas, White Pine County School District
School Board—Lyon County School District Board of Trustees
Superintendents of the Year—Carlos Garcia, Clark County School District; John Soderman, Douglas County School District; Dr. Jim Hager, Washoe County School District; Dr. Mary Pierczynski, Carson City School District
NASB Director of the Year—Norm Scoggin, Carson City School District
NASB Officer of the Year—Anne Loring, Washoe County School District

2004 – Elko

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Board—Churchill County School District Board of Trustees
School Administrators—Judy Ellen Pratt, Churchill County School District; Dorothy Boone, White Pine County School District; Roy Casey, Douglas County School District
Veteran Board Member—Nancy Hollinger, Washoe County School District
New Board Member—Eugene McNutt, White Pine County School District

Leadership Awards:

Board Member—Ruth Johnson, Clark County School District
School Board—White Pine, County School District Board of Trustees
Superintendent of the Year—Dr. Rob Roberts, Nye County School District
NASB Director of the Year—Sharla Hales, Douglas County School District
NASB Officer of the Year—Curt Chapman, Storey County School District

2005 – Las Vegas

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Board—Lincoln County School District Board of Trustees
School Administrator—Adam Young, White Pine County School District
Veteran School Board Member—Deborah Westcoatt, Nye County School District
New Board Member—Barbara Price, Washoe County School District

Leadership Awards:

Board Member—Sheila Moulton, Clark County School District
School Board—White Pine County School District

Superintendent of the Year—Dr. Mary Pierczynski, Carson City School District
NASB Director of the Year—Irene Chachas, White Pine County School District
NASB Officer of the Year—Curt Chapman, Storey County School District
NASB Executive Director's Leadership Award—Eureka County School District

2006 – Carson City, Pinon Plaza Hotel

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Board—Clark County School District Board of Trustees

School Administrators—DSA Team:

Wade Johnson [Lyon], Paul Johnson [White Pine], Bob Anderson [Carson City], Mike Alastuey [NASB/NASS], Randy Robison [NASB/NASS], Rick Kester [Douglas], Keith Bradford [Clark], Bill Sampson [Clark], Mike Schroeder [Washoe], Jeff Zander [Elko], Ben Zunino [Eureka], Gary Horton [NDE], Jim Wells [NDE], Doug Thunder [NDE], Dr. Keith Rheault [NDE]

Veteran School Board Member—Rachel Clingan, Pershing County School District

New School Board Member—Pete Magnum, White Pine County School District

Leadership Awards:

Board Member—Debbie Getto-Smith, Churchill County School District

School Board—Carson City School District Board of Trustees

Superintendent of the Year—Nat Lommori, Lyon County School District

NASB Director of the Year—Reuben Palmer, Mineral County School District

NASB Officer of the Year—Sharla Hales, Vice President, Douglas County School District

NASB Executive Director's Leadership Award—John Smales, Elko County School District

2007 – Reno, Airport Plaza Hotel & Conference Center

Distinguished Service Awards:

School Board—Lincoln County School District Board of Trustees

School Administrator—Sam Santillo, Carson Middle School, Carson City School District

Veteran School Board Member—Keith Roman, Douglas County School District

New School Board Member—Harold Tokerud, Nye County School District

Leadership Awards:

Board Member—Dennis Keating, Nye County School District

School Board—Douglas County School District

Superintendent of the Year—Antoinette Cavanaugh, Elko County School District

NASB Director of the Year—Paul Hinz, Churchill County School District

NASB Officer of the Year—Sheila Moulton, President, Clark County School District

Distinguished Service Award—Friend to Public Education or Advocacy Organization—Dr. Mary Pierczynski, Carson City School District

NASB Executive Director's Leadership Award—Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting Group, Boulder City

2008 – Reno, Airport Plaza Hotel & Conference Center

- Distinguished Service Award, K-12 Public Education Advocacy Organization—*
Nevadans for Quality Education
- Distinguished Service Award, Local School Board—*Storey County School District
Board of Trustees
- Executive Director’s Award for Contributions to Nevada School Districts and the*
*Association—*Dr. Jane Nichols, Vice Chancellor for Student and Academic
Affairs, Nevada System of Higher Education
- Leadership Award, Individual School Board Member—*John Seeliger, Humboldt
County School District
- NASB Director’s Award, Director of the Year—*Carolyn Edwards, Clark County School
District
- NASB Officer of the Year—*Irene Chachas, White Pine County School District
- NASB Distinguished Service Award, New School Board Member—*Shelly Noble,
Humboldt County School District
- NASB Distinguished Service Award, Veteran School Board Member—*Linda
Schrempp, Humboldt County School District
- School Administrator of the Year—*Lisa Primas, Principal, Paul
Culley Empowerment School, Clark County School District
- School Administrator of the Year—*Melinda Johnson, Yerington
Elementary School, Lyon County School District
- Superintendent of the Year—*Dr. Walt Rulffes, Clark County School District
- NASB Leadership Award, School Board of the Year—*Clark County School District
Board of Trustees

2009 – Reno, Airport Plaza Hotel & Conference Center

- NASB Director of the Year—*Susan Davis, Lander County School District
- New School Board Member of the Year—*Estela LeVario Gutierrez, Washoe County
School District
- Veteran School Board Member of the Year—*Bob Burnham, Eureka County School
District
- Individual School Board Member of the Year—*Kevin Pape, Nye County School
District
- Innovative Educator of the Year—*Aaron Hansen, White Pine Middle School, White
Pine County School District
- School Administrator of the Year—*Dr. Terry Owens, Hafen Elementary School, Nye
County School District; Brian Messmer, Jackpot Combined School, Elko
County School District
- Superintendent of the Year—*Ben Zunino, Eureka County School District
- Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting—*Jessica Garcia, Sparks Tribune,
Washoe County
- Individual Friend to K-12 Public Education—*Cathy Girard, Nye County School
District
- Executive Director’s Award for Contributions to Nevada School Boards and the*
*Association—*Carolyn Edwards, Clark County School District; Sharla Hales,
Douglas County School District

Local Governance Team of the Year—Lyon County School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Caroline McIntosh
School Board of the Year—Carson City School District Board of Trustees

2010 – Las Vegas, South Point Hotel Casino Spa

NASB Director of the Year—James Huckaby, Lyon County School District
New School Board Member of the Year—Kathleen Ancho, Lander County School District
Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Teri Jamin, Douglas County School District
Individual School Board Member of the Year—Sheila Moulton, Clark County School District
Innovative Educator of the Year—Damon Etter, Lyon County School District
School Administrator of the Year—Dr. Beverly Mathis, Clark County School District
Superintendent of the Year—Dr. Rob Slaby, Storey County School District
Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting—Scott Neuffer, *The Record Courier*, Douglas County
Individual Friend to K-12 Public Education—NAACP Las Vegas Chapter, Clark County
Executive Director’s Awards for Contributions to Nevada School Boards and the Association—Norm Scoggin [Carson City; Sheila Moulton, [Clark]; Murry Whipple [Lincoln]; Reuben Palmer [Mineral]; Nancy Hollinger [Washoe]
School Board of the Year—Lander County School District Board of Trustees

2011 – Reno, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

NASB Director of the Year—Pamela Smith, Storey County School District
New School Board Member of the Year—Erin Cranor, Clark County School District
Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Carolyn Edwards, Clark County School District
Individual School Board Member of the Year—Sharla Hales, Douglas County School District
Innovative Educator of the Year—Holly Marich, White Pine County School District
School Administrators of the Year—Debra Biersdorff, Washoe County School District; Todd Hess, Storey County School District
Superintendent of the Year—Dr. Heath Morrison, Washoe County School District
Board Secretary of the Year—Kerry Paniagua, Nye County School District
Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting—Heather Gula, *The Humboldt Sun*
Individual Friend to K-12 Public Education—Lina Sharp, Nye County School District
Executive Director’s Awards for Contributions to Nevada School Boards and the Association—Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting Group LLC; Assemblywoman Debbie Smith, Washoe District 30
Local Governance Team of the Year—Clark County School District Board of School Trustees; Superintendent Dwight Jones; Deputy Superintendent Pedro Martinez; Dr. Ken Turner, Assistant to the Superintendent
School Board of the Year—Washoe County School District Board of School Trustees

2012 – Reno, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

NASB Director of the Year—Lou Basanez, Elko County School District

New School Board Member of the Year—John Mayer, Washoe County School District

Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Dr. Greg Koenig, Churchill County School District

Individual School Board Member of the Year—Irene Chachas, White Pine County School District

Innovative Educator of the Year— Susan Van Doren, Douglas County School District

School Administrators of the Year—Denise Hausauer, Washoe County School District; James N. Huckaby, Lyon County School District

Superintendent of the Year—Dr. Lisa Noonan, Douglas County School District

Board Administrative Assistant of the Year—Cindy Krohn, Clark County School District

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting/Television—Shelby Sheehan, Channel 4 News

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting/Print—Trevon Milliard, *Las Vegas Review Journal*

Individual Friend to K-12 Public Education—Communities in Schools, Elko County School District

Executive Director's Awards for Contributions to Nevada School Boards and the Association—Irene Chachas, White Pine County School Board; Jim Lemaire, Carson City School Board

Executive Committee Special Recognition Award for Contributions to K-12 Public Education in Nevada—Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce

Local Governance Team of the Year—Elko County School District Board of School Trustees and Superintendent Jeff Zander

School Board of the Year—White Pine County School District Board of School Trustees

2013 – Reno, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

NASB Director of the Year—Joe Crim, Jr., White Pine County School District

New School Board Members of the Year—Ron Swirzcek, Carson City School District; Lorraine Alderman, Clark County School District

Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Lori Hunt, White Pine County School District

Individual School Board Member of the Year—Erin Cranor, Clark County School District

Innovative Educators of the Year— Ben Salkowe and Rachel Warbelow, "Scholars Working Over-Time," Clark County School District

School Administrators of the Year—Richard Swanberg, Washoe County School District; Amy Nelson, Humboldt County School District

Superintendent of the Year—Richard Stokes, Carson City School District

Board Support Staff Person of the Year—Maureen Fox, Clark County School District

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting/Television—Arianna Bennett, KTVN Channel 2, Reno

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting/Print—*El Tiempo*, Clark County

Individual Friends to K-12 Public Education—Jim Pfrommer, Washoe County; David E. Noonan Elementary School PTO, White Pine County School District

Executive Director's Awards for Contributions to Nevada School Boards and the Association—Lonnie Shields, Nevada Association of School Administrators; and Dr. Mary Pierczynski, Nevada Association of School Superintendents; and Chris Miller, Nevada Association of School Boards.

Local Governance Team of the Year—Storey County School District Board of School Trustees and Superintendent Rob Slaby

School Board of the Year—Carson City School District Board of School Trustees

2014 – Henderson, Green Valley Ranch Resort

Innovative Educator of the Year—Don Noorda, Educator, Elko County School District

School Administrator of the Year—Greg Misel, Principal, Clark County School District

District Level Administrator Impacting Student Achievement—Paul Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, White Pine County School District

District Employee Making a Difference—Sara Boucher, Educator, Clark County School District

Superintendent of the Year—Jeff Zander, Elko County School District

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in Print Journalism—Teri Vance, Nevada Appeal, Carson City

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in a County with Population below 100,000—Elko Daily Free Press

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in TV, Radio, or Online Journalism—8 News Now, CBS Las Vegas Affiliate

K-12 Public Education Advocacy Organization—Clark County Public Education Foundation

Organizational Friend to K-Public Education—Nevada Mining Association

School Board Staff Support Person—Kirsten Searer, Chief of Staff, Clark County School District

Director of the Year—Steve Nunn, Churchill County School District

New School Board Member of the Year—Neil Freitas, Trustee, Churchill County School District

Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Thad Ballard, Elko County School District

Individual School Board Member of the Year—Pete Mangum, White Pine County School District

Executive Director's Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Public Education and Nevada School Boards for Service in the Legislative Interim—Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Nevada Legislature; Bob Burnham, Emeritus Board Member [Eureka]; Jim McIntosh, Chief Financial Officer, Clark County School District; Mike Schroeder, Budget Director, Washoe County School District; Jeff Zander, Superintendent, Elko County School District; and Paul Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, White Pine County School District

Local Governance Team of the Year—Clark County School District Board of School Trustees and Superintendent Pat Skorkowsky

School Board of the Year—Douglas County School District Board of School Trustees

2015 – Reno, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

Innovative Educator of the Year—Shannon Hunewill, Humboldt County School District for her work with the “Warrior Hall” Program at Winnemucca Junior High School

School Administrators of the Year—Principal Travis Warnick in recognition of his work at Brinley Middle School and Shadow Ridge High School, Clark County School District; Principal Lee Conley in recognition of his work at Eagle Valley Middle School, Carson City School District

District Level Administrator Impacting Student Achievement—Dr. Greta Peay, Director of Equity and Diversity, Clark County School District

District Employee Making a Difference—Dr. Dana Ryan, Director of Career/Technical Education and Signature Academies, Washoe County School District

Superintendent of the Year—Bob Dolezal, White Pine County School District
Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in a County with Population below 100,000—Stephanie Morton, *Humboldt Sun Newspaper*

Individual and Organizational Friend to K-Public Education—Mike Jackson, Business and Education Succeeding Together, Carson City School District

School Board Staff Support Person—Toni Starniri, Nye County School District

Director of the Year—John Mayer, Trustee, Washoe County School District

New School Board Member of the Year—Mary Kerner, Trustee, White Pine County School District

Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Dr. Barbara McLaury, Trustee, Washoe County School District

Individual School Board Member of the Year—Wade Poulsen, Lincoln County School District

Executive Director’s Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Public Education and Nevada School Boards for Service during the 2015 Session of the Nevada Legislature—Senator Becky Harris, Nevada Legislature; Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury, Nevada Legislature; Jeff Zander, Superintendent, Elko County School District; and Paul Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, White Pine County School District

Contributions Too Numerous to Mention—Senator Debbie Smith, Nevada Senate District 13

Local Governance Team of the Year—Humboldt County School District Board of School Trustees, Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen

School Board of the Year—Lincoln County School District Board of School Trustees

2016 – Reno, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

Innovative Educators of the Year—C.J. Fields, Educator, in recognition of his work with the Comprehensive Life Skills Class, nominated by the Lyon County School District Board of Trustees; and Miki Trujillo, Principal, in recognition of her work with Alternative Education Programs, nominated by the Douglas County School District Board of Trustees

School Administrators of the Year—Cammie Briggs, Principal, in recognition of her work at David E. Norman Elementary School, nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees; and Rob Jacobson, Principal, in recognition of his work at Fernley Intermediate School, nominated by the Lyon County School District Board of Trustees

District Employee Making a Difference—Robin Williams, Educator, Pahrump Valley High School, nominated by the Nye County School District Board of Trustees

Superintendent of the Year—Superintendent Pat Skorkowsky, Clark County School District, nominated by the Boards of Trustees from Clark, Elko, and White Pine County School Districts

Media Award for Outstanding Educational Content Delivery—Vegas PBS, nominated by the Clark County School District Board of Trustees

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in a County with Population below 100,000—White Pine High School Pinenut Staff and *Ely Times*, nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in a County with Population above 100,000—Dennis Myers, *Reno News and Review*, nominated by the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in Print in a Journalism Format—Vern Hee, *Pahrump Valley Times*, nominated by the Nye County School District Board of Trustees

Individual Friend to K-Public Education—Sylvia Lazos, *Educate Nevada Now*, nominated by the Clark County School District Board of Trustees

Organizational Friend of Public Education—Mining Industry Foundation, nominated by the Humboldt County School District Board of Trustees

School Board Secretary of the Year—Julie Heggie, nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

Director of the Year—Tracie Ward, Trustee, Nye County School District, nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

New School Board Member of the Year—Nicole Bengochea, Trustee, Humboldt County School District, nominated by the Humboldt County School District Board of Trustees

Veteran School Board Member of the Year—Harold Tokerud, Trustee, Nye County School District, nominated by the Nye County School District Board of Trustees

Individual School Board Members of the Year—Lou Basanez, Trustee, Elko County School District, nominated by the Humboldt and Elko County School District Boards of Trustees; and Lori Hunt, Trustee, White Pine County School District, nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

Executive Director’s Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Public Education and Nevada School Boards—Bringing Compelling Attention to Transgender Issues—Jon Ralston, Journalist

Executive Director’s Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Education and Nevada School Boards for His Service on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee—Dr. Greg Koenig, Trustee, Churchill County School District

Executive Directors Award for Outstanding Service to Public Education and Nevada School Boards for Her Service on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee—Lou Basanez, Trustee, Elko County School District

Governance Team of the Year—Churchill County School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. Sandra Sheldon

School Board of the Year—Elko County School District Board of School Trustees and Superintendent Jeff Zander

2017 – Reno, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

Innovative Educator of the Year—Don Bland, Health Science and Career Education Program, Pioneer High School, Carson City School District—Nominated by the Carson City School District Board of Trustees

School Administrators of the Year (2 recipients)—Joseph Uy, Principal, Ferron Elementary School, Clark County School District—Nominated by the Clark County School District Board of Trustees

and

Tom Brown, Principal, Galena High School, Washoe County School District—Nominated by the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

District Level Employee Impacting Student Achievement—Noel Morton, School Performance Director—Humboldt County School District—Nominated by the Humboldt County School District Board of Trustees

School District Employee Making a Difference—Robin Griffith, Jobs for America’s Graduates Coordinator and Educator, White Pine County School District—Nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

Superintendent of the Year—Dr. Dave Jensen, Superintendent, Humboldt County School District—Nominated by the Boards of Trustees from Elko and Humboldt County School Districts

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in a County with Population below 100,000—Steve Ranson, Lahontan Valley News—Nominated by the Churchill County School District Board of Trustees

Media Award for Outstanding Education Reporting in a County with Population above 100,000—Brian Loftus, KLAS--Nominated by the Clark County School District Board of Trustees

Organizational Friend of Public Education—Save Our Schools Washoe—Nominated by the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

School Board Secretary of the Year—Paula Wright, Board Secretary, Humboldt County School District—Nominated by the Humboldt County School District Board of Trustees

Director of the Year—Pete Mangum, NASB Director, White Pine County School District—Nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

New School Board Member of the Year—Katy Simon Holland, Trustee, Washoe County School District—Nominated by the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

Veteran School Board Member of the Year—John Mayer, Trustee—Washoe County School District—Nominated by the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

Individual School Board Members of the Year—Karen Chessell, Douglas County School District—Nominated by the White Pine County School District Board of Trustees

Executive Director’s Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Public Education and Nevada School Boards—Members of the NASB Legislative Advisory Committee were recognized for their dedicated work on behalf of students across the State throughout the 2017 Session of the Nevada Legislature:

- Bridget Peterson, NASB Legislative Chair—Lyon County School District;
- Wade Poulsen, NASB President—Lincoln County School District;
- Tim Sutton, NASB Director—Nye County School District;
- John Mayer, NASB Director—Washoe County School District;
- Sheri Samson, NASB Director—Mineral County School District;
- Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, NASB President Elect—Carson City School District;
- Bob Burnham, NASB Vice President—Eureka County School District; and
- Erin Cranor, NASB Past President and Former School Board Member—Clark County School District.

Governance Team of the Year—Carson City School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Richard Stokes

School Board of the Year—Humboldt County School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen