2016 2016

March 2015

You Could Be Nebraska's Teacher of the Year for 2016!

Application forms for the 2016 Nebraska Teacher of the Year are available through your superintendent or principal or by calling the Coordinator listed below. Applications must be completed and postmarked by **midnight, August 7, 2015**. A selection panel will review the applications, and the four or five teachers receiving the highest scores will be advanced. Finalists will be interviewed during October, and the Teacher of the Year will be selected from those finalists. An awards luncheon will be held in November.

Begun in 1972, the Nebraska Teacher of the Year program recognizes outstanding Nebraska certified teachers who teach in a pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 classroom setting, and who plan to continue in an active teacher status in a state-approved or accredited school. Three letters of support must accompany the application. Questions on the application seek information on educational background and personal development, community involvement, philosophy of teaching and learning, and the teaching profession from the viewpoint of the applicant.

Candidates must be:

- exceptionally dedicated
- knowledgeable/skilled
- respected/admired by parents, students, and peers
- active in the community in which they teach
- poised, articulate, and energetic
- able to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities

The Nebraska State Education Association, Nebraska Council of School Administrators, Nebraska Association of School Boards, and corporate partners BlueCross BlueShield of Nebraska and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) will present a monetary award to the Nebraska Teacher of the Year. Each of the remaining finalists will be given a monetary award from sponsoring corporate friends and education associations.

The Nebraska State Board of Education will provide a $1,000 grant to the Awards of Excellence winners and the Teacher of the Year to be used for a project of the teacher's choice in his/her school. Additionally, the Nebraska State Education Association, Nebraska Association of School Boards, Nebraska Council of School Administrators, SMART Technologies, BlueCross BlueShield of Nebraska, Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), the Nebraska Parent Teacher Association, Dillard's Department Store, Lincoln, and Nebraska Department of Education will present gifts, mementoes, and awards to the persons recognized.

The Nebraska Teacher of the Year Program has received financial support from The Sherwood Foundation, Union Bank & Trust Company, The Nebraska Academy of Sciences, Inc., and ConAgra Foods Foundation.

If you have need for additional information, please call (402) 471-5059 or email lora.sypal@nebraska.gov.

Nebraska Teacher of the Year Coordinator
Lora Sypal (402) 471-5059 or lora.sypal@nebraska.gov