

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **School Board members earn honors and recognition at 2008 TSBA Annual Convention**

School board members from across the state gathered in Nashville Nov. 16-18 for the 71st Tennessee School Boards Association Annual Convention. Board members met to share best practices, discuss changes in public education, and to discuss ways public schools can be improved. The Convention featured a Legal Workshop, Community Relations Workshop, special interest sessions, and more than 20 clinic sessions designed to provide the latest data and information to those who oversee Tennessee's public education system.

In addition to the professional development opportunities, school boards and board members were honored for their achievements over the past year. The following is a list of those award winners.

### **SCHOOL BOARD OF THE YEAR**

The Tennessee School Boards Association annually honors a school board for excellent service. The superintendent, school administrator(s), board secretary, parent-teacher association or organization, and/or a member of the board-appointed committee may submit their board as a nominee. To meet the criteria for the award, school boards must meet all the standards to be a TSBA Board of Distinction: develop, apply and monitor policy; be involved in long-range planning; promote quality education through involvement with the legislature, city/county commission, State Board of Education, community and staff; participate in board development activities, including boardmanship award levels for each member; and exhibit a positive relationship with the media.

The ***Kingsport School Board*** is the 2008 School Board of the Year. Members of the Kingsport School Board are:

- ***Susan Lodal***, Chairman
- ***Wallace Boyd***
- ***Ron George***
- ***Dr. Randall Montgomery***
- ***Pat Turner***

Dr. Richard Kitzmiller is the superintendent for Kingsport City Schools.

### **ALL TENNESSEE SCHOOL BOARD AND THE C. HAL HENARD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

During the annual convention, TSBA recognizes five to seven outstanding school board members as members of the All Tennessee School Board. Members of the board are selected by a panel of judges from nominations made by superintendents, school board members, district directors or TSBA staff. The criteria for being named to the All Tennessee School Board include achievement of the Level IV Boardmanship Award; a high quality of service, with an emphasis on the previous 12 months; participation in board development activities with emphasis on the previous

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12 months; specific accomplishments of the local board of education during the nominee's term on the board; and leadership activities at the local, regional or state level.

The nominees for All Tennessee School Board receiving the highest collective ranking by the judges is the recipient of the C. Hal Henard Distinguished Service Award and serves as chairman of the All Tennessee School Board. The Tennessee School Board Member of the Year/C. Hal Henard Award is the highest recognition given by TSBA to a board member.

Members of the 2008 All Tennessee School Board are:

- **Ron Adcock**, Bedford County
- **Shaw Daniels**, Maury County
- **Kent McNish**, Franklin Special
- **Nettie Thomas**, Dyersburg
- **Pat Chester**, McMinn County

In addition to being named to the All Tennessee School Board, **Pat Chester** of McMinn County is the 2008 Tennessee School Board Member of the Year /C. Hal Henard Distinguished Service Award Winner and Chairman of the All Tennessee School Board. Ms. Chester is the 26th person to receive this award.

#### **LEVEL V MASTER BOARD MEMBERS**

To encourage professional growth of school board members, TSBA offers certified board member awards and a master board member award to members who invest their time and effort into becoming more informed and more effective school board members. The award is given for participation in activities outside of local school board obligations. There are five levels of recognition, and Levels I through IV are recognized during Fall District Meetings and those receiving Level V, Master Board Member, are recognized at the annual TSBA convention held each November. Master board members must have earned 250 credits in the appropriate categories and must have received at least a 25 out of 30 possible points for their portfolio.

This year's Level V Winners are:

- **Amy Martin**, Bedford County
- **Diane Neeley**, Bedford Count
- **Dixie Parker**, Bedford County
- **Jimmy Sain**, Coffee County
- **Sherry Badger**, Franklin Special
- **Kent McNish**, Franklin Special
- **Craig Ogle**, Greeneville
- **Sheila Cox**, Johnson City
- **Rosemary Quillen**, Lenoir City
- **Bobby Johnson**, Lenoir City
- **June Towry**, Lincoln County
- **Charlie Rollins**, Sequatchie County
- **Joseph Clayton**, Shelby County
- **Richard Rowe**, Sweetwater

#### **SCHOLAR'S CIRCLE AWARD**

In February 2007, the TSBA Board of Directors created the Scholar's Circle Award which recognizes school board members who have not only achieved the Master School Board Member designation but also have attained 900 or more boardsmanship points in the TSBA Boardsmanship Award Program. At this year's Convention, TSBA recognized **Rodney Eubank** of Tipton County for achieving Scholar's Circle status.

## QUARTER CENTURY CLUB

The Quarter Century Club recognizes those school board members having served twenty-five (25) years on their local boards of education. These individuals shall receive honorary life membership in the Tennessee School Boards Association. The 2008 inductees to the TSBA Quarter Century Club are:

- **Lawrence Harden**, Alamo
- **Tom Hager**, Johnson City
- **Jimmy Bills**, Fayetteville
- **David Hopper**, Murfreesboro
- **Dan Brooks**, Rogersville

## BOARDS OF DISTINCTION

In 1998, TSBA began the Board of Distinction Program which recognizes outstanding performance by a school board as a whole in the areas planning, policy, promotion and board development. The following school boards have achieved Board of Distinction status:

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|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Anderson County               | • Knox County       |
| • Athens                        | • Lincoln County    |
| • Bedford County                | • McMinn County     |
| • Bristol                       | • Memphis           |
| • Clarksville-Montgomery County | • Milan Special     |
| • Clinton                       | • Oak Ridge         |
| • Dekalb County                 | • Rhea County       |
| • Dyersburg                     | • Roane County      |
| • Franklin Special              | • Scott County      |
| • Greene County                 | • Sequatchie        |
| • Greeneville                   | • Shelby County     |
| • Hamblen County                | • Sullivan County   |
| • Hawkins County                | • Sweetwater        |
| • Haywood County                | • Trenton Special   |
| • Hickman County                | • Tullahoma         |
| • Jackson-Madison County        | • Unicoi County     |
| • Johnson City                  | • Union City        |
| • Johnson County                | • Washington County |
| • Kingsport                     | • Weakley County    |

## AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

To recognize outstanding programs in local school systems, TSBA offers an award to boards of education that have innovative and successful programs operating within their districts. The awards are made quarterly based upon nominations submitted by members of the TSBA Board of Directors, by local school boards, superintendents, school board members, or school system representatives. Each entry is considered by a panel of judges, and winners are announced. This year, TSBA began honoring one of its quarterly winners of the Award for Excellence in Education Programs as its Education Program of the Year. This year's winner is the **HomeLink Program operated by Greeneville City Schools**. The HomeLink program, operated since 2001, has helped place computers in the homes of at-risk students within the Greeneville School System. The computers used in the program come from a variety of donated sources, and they are set up with educational software and internet access by the school system at no charge to the families and students. During the 2007-2008 school year alone, the program provided computer training to more than 24 students.

## **SCHOOL OF THE YEAR FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN**

TSBA recognizes architectural firms for their excellence in design through the TSBA School of the Year Awards. Awards are granted in five categories including new school construction of elementary, middle, and high schools, renovation and the People's Choice award, which is selected by convention attendees.

This year's winners of the School of the Year Awards are:

### ***Elementary School:***

- 1st: Mayfield Elementary School, Cleveland, Community Tectonics
- 2nd: West Creek Elementary School, Clarksville-Montgomery County, Rufus Johnson Associates
- 3rd: Caryville Elementary School, Campbell County, Cope Associates Architects

### ***Middle School:***

- 1st: Whitwell Middle School, Marion County, Kaatz, Binkley, Jones & Morris Architects, Inc.

### ***High School:***

- 1st: Hardin Valley Academy, Knox County, The Lewis Group Architects
- 2nd: Mt. Juliet High School, Wilson County, Kaatz, Binkley, Jones & Morris Architects, Inc.
- 3rd: Grainger High School, Grainger County, The Lewis Group Architects

### ***Renovation:***

- 1st: Holston Middle School, Knox County, The Lewis Group Architects
- 2nd: Oak Ridge High School, Oak Ridge, DLR Group
- 3rd: Riceville Elementary School, McMinn County, Upland Design Group, Inc.

### ***People's Choice Award:***

Grainger High School, Grainger County, The Lewis Group Architects

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*The mission of the Tennessee School Boards Association is to assist school boards in effectively governing school districts. Through the years, TSBA has helped school boards and their members reach their highest potential through association programs, meetings, and services. TSBA also provides school board members a collective voice in matters of legislation and public education concerns.*