

MATCEI Call for Award Nominations

Do you know or work with someone who shows outstanding skills and understanding with emotionally impaired students? Take a moment - think about those creative, innovative exceptional educators. Each year, MATCEI seeks to recognize individuals who are making contributions to the special education field. The Exceptional Teacher Award, Distinguished Service Award and Professional Service Award are given to deserving individuals each year at the MATCEI Spring Conference.

Exceptional Teacher Award

The Exceptional Teacher Award shall be presented to MATCEI members who have demonstrated exceptional skill, understanding, and teaching competencies in providing effective special education programs to their students.

Qualifications:

Nominees should be exceptionally skilled and dedicated teachers who spend at least 50% of their time teaching in a classroom for students with emotional impairments in a state-approved or accredited elementary or secondary school. They should have a deep knowledge of their students and demonstrate vigorous, creative and imaginative teaching. Nominees should have the esteem of students, parents, and co-workers and play an active role in their school and communities.

Nominations may be made by submitting the following nominee information to the Awards Director:

- 1. Name, address and phone number of MATCEI member nominated.*
- 2. Name of the school, district, grade and class taught and number of years teaching students with EI.*
- 3. Reasons for nominating person for award.*

Upon receipt of nominations, the nominee will be contacted and asked to provide further information. School administration will be asked for a letter of recommendation.

Milton A. Sakorafis Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award shall be presented to individuals who have contributed their talents and expertise to the improvements of special education programs and services for students with emotional impairments. This award is reserved for those who have dedicated themselves to special education areas for an extended period of time. The following criteria will be considered in relation to an individual's contribution to improvements of program and services for the emotionally impaired.

- Exemplary dedication and personal commitment.
- Demonstrated initiative and leadership.
- Advocacy, identification of and involvement in activities designed to improve services.
- Innovation and impact on programs and services.
- Outstanding relations with service providers and community.
- Major input within a district, a region, a state or nationally.

Nominations may be made by submitting the following nominee information to the Awards Director:

- 1. Name, address, and phone number of nominee.*
- 2. Name of employer and nominee's job title.*
- 3. Reason for nominating person for the award.*

Professional Service Award

The professional Service Award shall be presented to non-teaching professionals who have demonstrated exceptional skill and understanding in providing effective special education services to EI students. This award is intended to acknowledge the school principal, bus driver, youth treatment specialist, child care worker, recess aide, social worker, psychologist, supervisor, TC or paraprofessional.

Nominations may be made by submitting the following nominee information to the Awards Director:

- 1. Name, address and phone number of MATCEI member nominated.*
- 2. Name, address and phone number of employer.*
- 3. Reason for nominating person for the award.*
- 4. Information regarding job responsibilities and number of years in position*
- 5. Name, address and phone number of two additional references.*

Send nominations before March 15 to:

Chris Kinney, 3016 Kipling, Berkley, MI 48237 – Questions? Email Kinney@misd.net