

Virginia Technology Education Association 2010 Elementary Program Excellence Awards

Sponsored by VTEA in conjunction with the ITEA and the NASSP, the Program Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to Technology Education program at the elementary level. It is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession and children. The Program Excellence Award provides public recognition at local, regional, state and international levels.

Who is Eligible?

Candidates for the Program Excellence Award must be characterized as providing Technology Education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technology.

Elementary Program Excellence

Elementary programs must be nominated by a Virginia educator. Requirements include an assessment procedure, the school or a teacher at the school, must be a member of the VTEA and ITEA, demonstrate compliance with the curriculum, administrative support for nomination, and other materials.

Selection Process

ITEA provides its affiliated associations with recommended selection and criteria procedures to use in choosing its honoree. Once nominated, the following schedule is followed.

As Scheduled

Award and public announcement made at the VTEA annual summer conference (usually in August).

December 1, 2009:

Nomination of the Program Excellence candidate application packet is mailed to the VTEA Program of the Year Committee.

Late July - Early August:

Award presented at VTEA Annual Summer Conference.

Late March-Early April:

Award presented at ITEA Annual Conference.

For additional information contact the Program Excellence Awards Committee Chair:

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Submission Deadline: December 1, 2009

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The VTEA and ITEA Elementary Program Excellence Awards gives elementary school teachers and administrators an opportunity to share with the educational community their successful ideas and activities in the technology education field.

The awards are designed to stimulate sharing experiences and expertise and to lay the foundation for increasing the body of knowledge regarding technology education activities.

Selecting the Award Recipient

The ***Elementary Program Excellence Award*** applications are reviewed by the VTEA. All entries will be judged in light of the definition of technology education published in the ITEA position paper:

Technology Education: An educational program that helps people develop an understanding and competence in designing, producing, and using technological products and systems and in assessing the appropriateness of technological actions.

In elementary grades it develops an awareness of technology and reinforces the learning in other subjects.

The materials presented by each applicant will be evaluated using the following criteria that were developed to describe a quality technology education experience at the elementary school level:

- The program engages students in solving practical problems or learning how practical problems are solved using technical means.
- The program helps students to better understand how people adapt to, change, or use their natural environment to get things they want or need.
- The program is highly experimental; it promotes students' active involvement in safe learning practices.
- The program is relevant to the students at their developmental level.
- The program is integrated and supports concepts from school subjects such as mathematics, science, language arts, social studies, health, fine arts, and physical education.
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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AWARDS

Elementary Program Excellence Award nominees may be from any school that has an affiliation with the Virginia Technology Education Association (VTEA) International Technology Education Association (ITEA). A school is eligible to receive a Program Excellence Award once every three years. Nominations must be submitted to the VTEA Program of the Year Selection Committee.

Requirements for the Award

The **Program Excellence Award** program is designed to encourage teachers to (1) share experiences and expertise and (2) contribute to the increasing body of knowledge regarding technology education activities in the elementary school.

The following are minimum requirements for the VTEA and ITEA **Elementary Program Excellence Award**.

- The school must hold membership in the VTEA and ITEA or a teacher in the school must be a professional or life member of VTEA and ITEA
- The program must reflect a technology education philosophy and it must incorporate contemporary teaching strategies. *It is essential that the teachers in the school recognize the difference between quality technology education and a mere "hands-on" manipulative experience.*
- The program must have the support of the building and division administration.

The Award Application

Each applicant for the elementary school **Program Excellence Award** must submit a set of materials using the format shown below. These materials must be submitted to the VTEA Program Excellence Awards Committee chair. The **Program Excellence Award** application must contain the following parts:

Cover page that includes the following:

- Name of the school.
- School address and telephone number.
- Principal's or contact person's name and telephone number.

A one page **description of the school** that includes the following:

- Characteristics of the school.
- School environment.
- Annual objectives.

A three page (maximum) summary of **technology education in the school** that describes:

- The nature of the technology education activities.
- The extent to which technology education is incorporated in the overall curriculum.
- How technology education is integrated with other areas of study.

Support materials that may include:

- Photos of children participating in technology education activities.
- Instructional materials used with the technology education activities.
- Examples of student work developed during the technology education activities.

Letters showing **program support** for any or all of the following:

- School district or building administrators.
- School patrons - parents, guardians, etc.
- Students.

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