

**Virginia Technology Education Association  
2010 Regional Elementary School Teacher Excellence Award**

**General Information**

The Regional Teacher Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to Technology Education classroom teachers and is presented in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the profession and their students. The Regional Teacher Excellence Award provides public recognition at the local, regional and state levels. On the state level, a VTEA special recognition and awards dinner is provided during the VTEA Annual Summer Conference.

**Who is Eligible?**

Candidates for the Regional Teacher Excellence Award must be characterized as providing Technology Education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technology. Mandatory requirements include:

- The teacher must be nominated by an educator.
- The teacher must be a current member and have held membership for the preceding year in both VTEA and ITEA.
- The teacher must hold a teaching license and be knowledgeable about the processes for teaching technology in grades K-5.
- The teacher's school administration must concur that he/she is a professional worthy of being considered an outstanding educator.

**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).

**March 31, 2010:**

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

**Late July - Early August:**

Award presented at VTEA Annual Summer Conference.

**For additional information contact the Regional Teacher Excellence Awards Committee Chair:**

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Application Deadline: March 31, 2010

## **Regional Teacher Excellence Awards**

The **Regional Teacher Excellence Awards** program was established to identify outstanding technology teachers who will serve as models for their colleagues and who could form a leadership core to affect change in the field. VTEA will recognize one elementary school teacher at the summer annual conference.

***Teachers who are nominated for Regional Teacher Excellence Awards should demonstrate the following evidence:***

- Exemplary teaching characteristics including subject-matter competence, enthusiasm for teaching, sensitivity to student learning needs, and good communication skills.
- An understanding of technology education as basic education for all students.
- Sustained professional growth in technology education and in the art of teaching.
- Ability to engage students in a hands-on/minds-on approach to learning about technology.
- Ability to foster curiosity and generate excitement about learning to understand and apply technology concepts and practices.
- A conviction that all students should and can learn about technology and apply its principles in everyday life.
- An understanding of the relationships between technology and other areas of study in the school.
- An experimental and innovative attitude in their approach to teaching.
- Professional involvement and leadership.

# Teacher Excellence Awards Elementary School Awards

## *Requirement for the Award*

### **Eligibility criteria:**

All candidates for the **Regional Teacher Excellence Award** must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Must be a full-time professional employee of the school division.
- Have a full-time elementary school teaching position in a public or private school.
- Have taught elementary school technology education units or activities for at least two years prior to nomination.
- Must be recognized by the school's administration as being worthy of recognition as an outstanding teacher.
- Is a current member of the VTEA and ITEA at the time of receiving the award and has been a member of both associations for the previous year.

### **Award criteria:**

- Elementary teacher recipients must:
- Exemplify excellence in teaching.
- Teach activities or units of instruction that would be considered good technology education using state or national standards.
- Be committed to continuing professional development.
- Contribute to the profession through on-going service.

### **Award applications**

Each applicant for the elementary school **Regional Teacher Excellence Award** must submit a set of materials using the format shown below. These materials must be submitted to the VTEA Teacher Excellence Award Committee Chair.

- A completed **Personal Data Form**
- A summary that describes the candidate's philosophy of the role of technology education in the elementary school.
- A set of materials as outlined in the **Regional Teacher Excellence Award Evaluation Form**.
- Letters of support for the nomination.
- A sample of a technology education activity or unit that is used in the candidate's classroom. The activity or unit must be presented in a format that can be shared with elementary school teachers. The source of the activity must be clearly cited.
- Three (3) color photos in jpg or power point.

## **Regional Teacher Excellence Award Documentation Checklist Elementary School Awards**

(Each applicant should prepare the following documentation to support his or her application. The documentation should be submitted in a binder with clearly labeled section dividers.)

### **Evidence of talent in teaching:** (Maximum 4 pages)

- GOALS:** Include the goals for the technology education units or activities you use. *High ranking is given for goals that emphasize a broad understanding of technology and its application through problem solving and group work.*
- THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:** Include a description of the ways you organize and manage the technology education activities in your classroom. *High ranking is given to a learning environment that is flexible, accepts a variety of answers to a given technological problem, that is accepting of failure, and that expects students to accept major responsibility in structuring their learning tasks.*
- EFFECTIVENESS:** Identify the ways your teaching meets the needs of a diverse student population. *High ranking is given to teachers who address the needs of varying levels of ability, provide activities that will interest both males and females, and connect the study of technology with other disciplines and the world outside the school.*
- ASSESSMENT:** Explain how you assess student progress. *High ranking is given to teachers who use a variety of techniques to determine what students have learned about and can do with technology.*

### **Evidence of technology education practices:** (Maximum 4 pages)

- FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS:** Include content outlines for your technology education activities or units. *High ranking is given for concepts that are fundamental for all students regardless of gender or ability.*
- CREATIVE IDEAS:** Explain how technology education activities you use involve creative use of the classroom. *High ranking is given for activities that show creative use of resources and unique approaches in helping students understand technology.*
- GLOBAL CONTEXT:** Identify ways your teaching helps students understand the impacts of technology on people, society, and the environment and how technology relates to citizenship, consumer, and career roles. *High ranking is given to teachers who relate technology to the world outside the school.*

### **Background and experience** (Maximum 1 page)

- TRAINING AND EDUCATION:** Include collegiate education, professional development experiences, and conference attendance. *High ranking is given to teachers who are academically prepared to teach elementary school and see that they must maintain their expertise through a continuing education program.*
- PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT:** Include your involvement with professional associations. *High ranking is given to teachers who contribute to their profession through involvement with professional associations and societies.*

### **Letters of support** (Minimum 3)

# Regional Teacher Excellence Award Data Form

(All information must be completed by the candidate. Please type or print.)

## ***Personal Data:***

Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_ ITEA Membership No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: (degrees and institutions)

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Teaching Certificates held:

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Number of years in education: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years teaching technology: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years in present teaching position: \_\_\_\_\_

Present teaching assignment: (subjects taught and grade level)

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Affiliated participation: (offices held, committee assignments, conference presentations, etc.)

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VTEA and ITEA participation: (offices held, committee assignments, conference presentations, etc.)

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