

Excellence in Catholic Education Award 2020

Introduction

The Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (C.C.S.S.A.) is a community of disciples leading and guiding Catholic education in Alberta.

We proudly and continuously proclaim the benefits of Catholic education to our partners, stakeholders, and the public at large.

As a community of disciples, and leaders in Catholic education in Alberta, we wish to communicate clearly and convincingly the *raison d'être* for Catholic education, and its value to society.

We believe that one way of achieving this goal is to establish an '**Excellence in Catholic Education Award**', recognised annually by Alberta Catholic school jurisdictions and presented by CCSSA.

Purpose

Clearly Catholic school communities place great importance on respect and support for fellow human beings and community mindedness. To this end we wish to honour 'teachers' across the Province of Alberta who have contributed in an extraordinary way to serving the needs of Catholic students.

As Catholic school jurisdictions, by participating together, in a provincial Catholic education award initiative, it is hoped that students, teachers, staff, parents and all in Catholic education can also feel a sense of being part of a bigger picture that can make a real difference in the lives of all Catholic students throughout the Province of Alberta.

The Excellence in Catholic Education Award recognizes Catholic 'teachers' in Alberta who have done an exemplary job in preparing our youth to grow into outstanding Catholic citizens. Nominees shall be passionate about Catholic education and the students they teach, inspire their students, and demonstrate commitment to Catholic education and teaching excellence.

Eligibility

A nominee must be a practicing Catholic who is a certificated teacher teaching or working full time in a publicly funded Catholic school jurisdiction in the Province of Alberta. The award is limited to 'individuals' – staff groups or school staffs are 'not' eligible.

Criteria

Each Divisional Selection Committee will look for specific examples of how the teacher's character, teaching or leadership excels at:

- role modeling Catholic values and a Catholic lifestyle;
- fostering the development of students and their spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional and physical growth;
- motivating students to exceed their own expectations;
- attending to individual student needs;
- working collaboratively with colleagues & parish;
- demonstrating an in-depth knowledge of subject matter, curriculum, and the integration of the teachings of the Catholic Church;
- being involved in professional and spiritual growth activities;
- achieving positive results in student learning; and,
- demonstrating caring for the well-being of students and colleagues, thereby contributing to a positive school climate.

'Each school division will determine their nomination and selection process.'

Awards

Each publicly funded Catholic school jurisdiction in the Province of Alberta is asked to determine the nomination and selection process as well as the recipient for their division.

School jurisdictions may award one certificate. Edmonton Catholic and Calgary Catholic may award up to three certificates.

Divisional recipients will be presented with a C.C.S.S.A. Excellence in Catholic Education Certificate by the President of CCSSA or designate at the Blueprints and SPICE Annual Spring Conference. Additionally, each jurisdiction that is honouring one of their members with this award will provide the CCSSA Executive with a three hundred (300) word summary for the program of why the award has been given to this individual as well as a five (5) sentence introduction.

Timeline

The following timeline will be adhered to:

December 1, 2019- Nomination packages are distributed to CCSSA & REN members

February 28, 2020 – School divisions provide the CCSSA Executive Director the following (executive.director@ccssa.ca):

- Name (s) of the award recipient
- Name of the School Division
- Name of CCSSA member to accompany the CCSSA President or designate in making the award presentation (If no CCSSA member is available the CCSSA President will present on their own).
- A three hundred (300) word nomination support summary for the banquet program (in WORD not PDF)
- A five (5) sentence introduction to be read by the CCSSA President or designate at the banquet (in WORD not PDF)
- 2 or 3 digital pictures of the award recipient (alone and with students)
- Indicate which venue that the award will be presented – BluePrints or S.P.I.C.E.