



**SSDA**

**SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION**

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**SSDA FOUNDERS**

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January 1, 2012

RE: Nomination for Outstanding Superintendents for the Small School District's Association's Prestigious Charlie Binderup Award

Dear Superintendent,

As a Superintendent of schools for the Small School District's Association, you are undoubtedly aware of one or more outstanding superintendent in your area. Every year, the SSDA recognizes one special superintendent who has made significant contributions to the field of educational leadership and student learning. We ask that you help us find the most deserving candidate by nominating at least one superintendent from your area.

Attached is a Charlie Binderup Award nomination form. Please complete and return it to us by **Thursday, March 1, 2012** for consideration. This is your opportunity to recognize a top performer in your area. You may even be the one to submit the winner!

This year's award is even more special and likely to be very competitive because of all the exceptional work completed by small school district superintendents who have overcome challenges of declining enrollment, increasing academic performance, and establishing challenging and motivational programs for youth.

We look forward to your assistance. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call Debra Pearson, SSDA Executive Director, at (916) 444-9335.

We really appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and look forward to receiving the nomination of the outstanding superintendent in your area!

Sincerely,

Debra Pearson  
SSDA Executive Director

enclosures



## **Charles Binderup Award for an Outstanding Small School District Superintendent**

### **About the Award**

Established in 1990, this award recognizes an individual member superintendent of the Small School Districts' Association who has, over a significant period of time, made an outstanding contribution to small school district leadership and management. Nominations may be made by SSDA members and other members of the public. The award is made in the name of Charlie Binderup, an outstanding small school district superintendent in California.

The purpose of the SSDA Charlie Binderup Award is:

- To honor a small school district superintendent who through individual leadership and sustained effort has made worthy contributions to the operation of a small school district and to advancing the role of small school district superintendents in the educational arena and in the community.
- To recognize the responsible and influential role of a small school district leader in developing successful school environments.
- To stimulate the replication of small school district best practices and programs.

### **Eligibility**

Small School District Superintendents currently in administrative office, directly responsible for a small school district (less the 5,000 ADA). *A District must be a current SSDA member. Current members of the Executive Committee are not eligible to be nominated.*

### **The Nomination Process**

1. The individual making the nomination must be a district member, County Coordinator of SSDA, County Superintendent, or an informed educator member of the county in which the nominee resides.
2. At least two supporting letters of reference must accompany the application form. The reference must substantiate that the nominee is an advocate for small school districts and an outstanding educational leader. These letters may be submitted by:
  - a. Other small school district superintendents
  - b. SSDA Executive Committee Members
  - c. SSDA County Coordinators
  - d. Small school district staff including; Principals, Executive Assistants, etc.
  - e. Associations of school administrators
  - f. Local school board members
3. Nomination may be no more than 8 (eight) pages.

## **Selection Process**

All qualified nominee applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of:

- Past Presidents currently on the Executive Committee
- Charles Binderup Award Coordinator
- Current President of SSDA
- Emeritus Members of the Executive Committee

At the conclusion of the process, all members of the Executive Committee will be notified of the selection for their approval.

## **Selection Criteria**

1. Required nomination materials are complete (have all information and attachments) and submitted by deadline.
2. The nominee is a PK-12; or PK-8, or Elementary Superintendent.
3. The nominee's work has had a significant positive impact on academic performance and equality in the school's district: locally, regionally, statewide, nationally or worldwide.
4. The nominee has involved the community in educational programs or facilitated partnerships with other small school districts.
5. The nominee works tirelessly to genuinely improve the quality of education.
6. The nominee has demonstrated his/her ability to both deliberately plan for and incorporate positive change and/or technology for the purpose of closing performance and achievement gaps.

# Charles Binderup Award

In recognition of the leadership and personal qualities of Charles Binderup, the Small School Districts' Association (SSDA) has established an annual award in his memory. The award will be presented at the SSDA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Sacramento on March 28-30, 2012 at the Radisson Hotel, Sacramento, CA.

## Eligibility

County Superintendents of Schools, School District Superintendents and Superintendent/Principals with a minimum of five (5) years experience as a small school district Superintendent are eligible to be nominated for this award. If you have a nominee, please complete the following nomination papers and return them to the Small School Districts' Association.

## Deadline

In order to have the nomination considered for the 2012 award presentation, the nomination information must be received at the SSDA office no later than **Thursday, March 1, 2012**. You may mail the information to: SSDA Charles Binderup Award, 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 315, Sacramento, CA 95814 or by fax to (916) 441-4851.

For further information or if you have any questions, please contact Debra Pearson or Shelly Tillery at (916) 444-9335.

## Please complete all information below:

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fill out the following statements with examples and/or comments of how he or she fulfills them. You may add up to eight (8) pages of additional examples and/or comments.**

**Personal Criteria**

1. A person who is intelligent, creative, personable and open.

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2. A person who epitomizes what is right and good about humanity and the public education system.

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3. A person who displays a good sense of humor with wit and excellent communication skills.

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4. A person of integrity.

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5. A person with strength of character dedicated to the profession and to the individuals within that profession.

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**Professional Criteria**

1. A visionary who provides leadership in all aspects of educational programs.

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2. A person who is an enthusiastic, able advocate and spokesperson for the value and worth of small school districts.

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3. A consensus builder.

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4. A passionate and effective advocate for children.

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5. A person who is able to focus upon and base decisions on what is best for students.

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