

Criteria and Eligibility

Personal Excellence

- Models continuous professional growth
- Interacts professionally and tactfully with others
- Communicates effectively in speaking and writing
- Models values, beliefs, and attitudes that encourage others to higher levels of performance
- Demonstrates commitment to National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and its programs through continuous membership and participation in the following:
 - NASSP through national and state affiliate involvement
 - National Honor Society (NHS), National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) and/or National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) chapter(s) that actively supports achievement and works to improve the academic culture in the school
 - National Association of Student Councils (NASC) affiliation with active community and school involvement

Collaborative Leadership

- Involves teachers, staff members, parents, students and the community in creating and fostering a shared vision for the school
- Leads collaboratively to promote ownership among staff, students, parents and community members for school efforts and outcomes
- Creates a culture of collaboration in which staff members work together as a professional learning community to promote student learning
- Teaches, coaches and supports the development of potential and current school leaders
- Utilizes available technology tools for school management and operation, instruction and assessment, fostering collaboration and communication to effectively address issues in the school community and meet the unique learning needs of each student.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- Improves teaching, learning and assessment by implementing practices, programs and improvement efforts on the basis of multiple sources of data
- Leads efforts in curriculum alignment and identification of essential learnings at each level
- Observes, supervises and evaluates teachers and instructional programs to maximize the learning opportunities for every teacher and for every student
- Demonstrates knowledge of learning, teaching, assessment practices, research and programs that maximize student performance
- Facilitates in developing and maintaining co-curricular programs that complement the curriculum while fostering students' academic success
- Ensures that each student has the best possible opportunity of realizing success by providing a personalized plan that evaluates individual learner needs in relation to learning time, setting, methods and course sequence
- Provides enrichment and support for both students and teachers in meeting high standards

Personalization

- Establishes and maintains a school environment that reflects high expectations for students and staff members
- Creates a school climate that is warm, inviting, safe and secure
- Organizes the school so that all social, economic and racial/ethnic groups have equal access to all school programs and provides the support needed for student success
- Creates structures that promote positive relationships between adults and students and ensures that each student is well-known by at least one staff member
- Acknowledges the accomplishments of students, teachers and school community members

Eligibility:

Any principal, headmaster or leader of a virtual, public or private middle level or high school is eligible to be nominated as a State Principal of the Year candidate as long as they meet the eligibility criteria of this section.

- ◆ Each candidate must be a principal or headmaster and **member of NASSP and PA Principals Association at the time of selection as State Principal of the Year and throughout the year of his/her term.**
- ◆ Middle level and high schools are defined as those containing some portion of grades 6 - 12.
- ◆ **All applicants must have served as a principal at one or more middle level or high schools for three (3) full consecutive years or longer.**
- ◆ All candidates **must complete the official 2018 NASSP National Principal of the Year online application.**
- ◆ **This program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of active, front-line principals.** It is not recognition of service at retirement or a program to reward current state or national leaders. Current staff members, members of the NASSP Board of Directors or State Executive Directors are ineligible. Members of the PA Principals Association Executive Committee are also ineligible. Previous state and national winners are eligible to reapply for the award after a period of five years.
- ◆ For more eligibility information, please visit <https://nasspawards.org/poy/eligibility>