

**Florida Council of Instructional Technology Leaders  
Instructional Technology Leadership Award:  
2007-08 Innovative Principal of the Year  
Nomination Form**

**District Name: School Board of Broward County**

**NOMINATING FCITL MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Name of Nominating FCITL Member: Dr. Jeanine Gendron**

**FCITL Member's E-mail Address: jeanine.gendron@browardschools.com**

**Phone #: ( 754 ) 321-0475                      Fax #: (754 ) 321-0475**

**Superintendent's Name: James F. Notter**

**PRINCIPAL NOMINEE CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Name of Principal Nominee: Dr. Patricia Patterson**

**Principal's E-mail Address: patricia.patterson@browardschools.com**

**School Name: Nob Hill Elementary**

**School Address: 2100 NW 104<sup>th</sup> Ave, Sunrise, FL 33322**

**School Phone #: ( 754 ) 322-7200                      School Fax #: (754) 322-7240**

**NOMINATION INFORMATION**

**Please provide the information that best reflects why this nominee should be selected to receive the FCITL Instructional Technology Leadership Award: Innovative Principal of the Year.**

**Recommended information to be highlighted:**

- Principal's Background Information (number of years in current position, number of years in education, educational experience, etc.)
- School Background/Demographics
- School and Principal's Instructional Technology Accomplishments: (focusing on how nominee has provided leadership to make a positive impact on student achievement using instructional technology).

*All information described above needs to be limited to two pages and sent as an attachment in Word format. Completed nomination form, two page narrative and digital videos are due by December 14, 2007. Nomination forms are to be sent via email to Gary Evans ([gary.evans@audioenhancement.com](mailto:gary.evans@audioenhancement.com)). Digital videos are to be sent to Andrew Denard (mailing address to be provided at a later date).*

**Nomination form**  
**Florida Council of Instructional Technology Leaders (FCITL)**  
**Instructional Technology Leadership Award: Innovative Principal of the Year**

Broward County Public Schools is honored to nominate Dr. Patterson, of Nob Hill Elementary for the FCITL Innovative Principal of the Year award. Dr. Patterson has lived in Florida since the age of seven. She is a product of Broward County Public Schools. She received her B.A. in education from Florida Atlantic University, her M.S. in Guidance and Counseling from Barry College, and her Ed. D in Curriculum and Instruction from Florida International University. Dr. Patterson has educational experience grades 1 through 12, having taught at the elementary level, middle school level and vocational high school. She has been an Adjunct Professor for over 25 years teaching curriculum and leadership. She has been a teacher, Guidance Counselor, ESE Specialist, Bilingual Resource Specialist, and Assistant Principal. She is currently the Principal of Nob Hill Elementary School. Dr. Patterson is a state and national presenter in the field of gifted education and leadership. She is a published author, grant writer and grant reader for the U.S. Department of Education.

Nob Hill Elementary School has 848 students reflecting a diverse population: 35% White, 33% Black, 23% Hispanic, 5% Asian, 1% Indian, and 3% Multi. Nob Hill is located in a small community on the western side of Sunrise, Florida. Because of its location in the middle of a community, it is often overlooked. When Dr. Patterson was appointed principal, Nob Hill was a high performing school with little technology and almost no diversity in its population. It was primarily operating as a textbook driven school with a few teachers who enjoyed “playing” with technology. The hardware and software was old, the 30 year-old building did not present itself as a “technology friendly” environment, and elementary schools generally had no money for technology unless they were build within the previous five years.

Upon becoming principal at Nob Hill six years ago, she asked herself two questions. First, if Nob Hill can be an “A” school without technology, what could it become with technology? Secondly, what should students know and be able to do as a result of a highly trained staff and a quality technology enriched, standard -based curriculum?

She recognized the fact that if students are going to compete successfully in the global economy, more must be done to support their acquisition of 21st century skills. Movement from a textbook driven curriculum to a 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning community was vital in creating an environment that mirrored the real world.

Technology, data, research, and collaboration has resulted in building a technology model school that is self-sustaining and self-renewing. This vision has become embedded throughout the school and has resulted in the development of support systems, support roles, and an increase in teacher proficiency and integration of technology. The result is the seamless use of digital tools, strategies, and resources at all levels of the curriculum.

In her sixth year as principal, there is now an increased emphasis on project-based learning. Technology is utilized more effectively by teachers for curriculum delivery and student assessment. Increasingly students are using the technology for research, collaboration, communication, presentation of knowledge, and multimedia production. Teachers help students find their own “voices” as learners by constructing personal meaning using the interactive multimedia tools and strategies that are native to them.

An information driven world calls for a new way of teaching students. Dr. Patterson asked herself, why not use the power of motion, color, and sound in media developed for children and by children to help stimulate learning? The learning environment at Nob Hill Elementary School has moved from a teacher centered to a more student-centered learning environment. Students utilize multi-sensory stimulation and a diverse array of digital tools to better understand content. They collaborate and exchange information through blogs and podcasts. Their use of technology becomes seamless as they answer essential questions through inquiry-based learning. Their decisions come from exploring resources, being proactive, and dealing with real world issues. Creativity is heightened as students apply knowledge in new and innovative ways.

Nob Hill Elementary is an educational community where technology, data, research, and collaboration result in a quality education for children. Their mission is to implement and support technologies that provide a high quality, safe learning environment allowing all learners to achieve at their highest potential. They have moved from mandating the use of technology to the innovative use of technology within the instructional process. The transition from using technology for information management to a constructivist, authentic, problem-based use of technology has created a culture of life-long learning. Nob Hill is evolving into a school-wide coaching model and teachers are beginning to interact with teachers in other schools. Every teacher in the school has a technology related responsibility that ensures sustainability. Regular meetings are held to share what’s happening in the classrooms. The technology becomes self-renewing as teachers share best practices with one another.

Dr. Patterson’s job as principal is to keep the resources coming. Her new goals include becoming completely digitalized and transforming every classroom into a digital learning environment. The emphasis is no longer on the acquisition of technology skills but the application of skills to further enrich and deepen student learning. Her role as principal is to continue to work on providing equitable and effective access to technology as well as providing opportunities for ongoing professional development to keep pace with new and emerging technologies. Technology is all about partnerships within her school learning community, with other schools, and with the district. She couldn’t stop technology in her school now if she wanted to!