

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

General Information

In the fall of 2003, the Florida Council of Instructional Technology Leaders (FCITL) instituted a leadership award to recognize outstanding principals in the area of instructional technology. This annual program is designed to highlight school-based principals within our Florida districts that have demonstrated successful program implementations utilizing technology to further student achievement*.

** NOTE: Student achievement is defined as it relates to any number of measures (FCAT preparation, student/teacher technology literacy, classroom technology integration, bridging the digital divide, etc.).*

Awards Program Goals

The goals of this awards program are:

- To provide a forum for recognizing outstanding principal leaders in the area of instructional technology;
- To share and promote best practice instructional technology implementations within our group as well as with other leaders and decision-makers throughout the state and nation; and
- To bring further awareness of our FCITL organization's purpose:
 - Promoting the enhancement of the instructional process through the effective use and integration of technology;
 - Promoting cooperation and communication among the district and state leaders who impact technology use in education;
 - Positively influencing legislation and policies regarding funding, development, and integration of instructional technology use in Florida; and
 - Recognizing the vital role of the instructional technology professional and promoting professional growth opportunities.

Nomination Procedures

Each district may submit one principal nominee via the district's FCITL voting member. Nomination forms should be submitted electronically via e-mail to Gary Evans (gary.evans@audioenhancement.com), Award Selection Committee Chairperson, by December 14, 2007. Each nomination should consist of the nomination form (see reverse), the recommended written information, and a digital video** (see description below).

*** NOTE: Digital Video: A short digital video should be produced using the highest possible resolution and quality settings highlighting each nominee, his/her school and their accomplishments. The video can be produced by the school or the district and should be limited to three minutes in length. The video will be used to assist the Award Selection Committee and the at-large FCITL membership in the voting process. It is hoped that the video will also be used to recognize and promote the educational technology programs that have been initiated by these principals.*

Selection/Recognition Procedures and Timeline

The Selection Committee will review all nominations and select three finalists (*December 17 – 21, 2007*).

The three finalist nomination forms and digital videos will be made available to all FCITL members to assist them in casting their votes (*January 7 – 11, 2008*).

All three finalists will be invited to attend a FCITL-sponsored Awards Luncheon in association with FETC 2008 (*January 22, 2008*). All three principal finalists will be recognized and celebrated, their digital videos shown, and the winner announced. The Innovative Principal of the Year and each finalist will receive a plaque commemorating this recognition.

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

District Name:

NOMINATING FCITL MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Nominating FCITL Member: Miriam Walrath Needham
(must be voting member)

FCITL Member's E-mail Address: Miriam.needham@marion.k12.fl.us

Phone #: (352) 671-4104

Fax #: (352) 671-4108

Superintendent's Name: James Yancey

PRINCIPAL NOMINEE CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Principal Nominee: G. Don Raymond

Principal's E-mail Address: george.raymond@marion.k12.fl.us

School Name: Dr. N. H. Jones Elementary: An Academy of Math, Science, Technology and Video Production

School Address: 1900 SW 5th St, Ocala, Fl 34474

School Phone #: (352) 671-7260

School Fax #: (352) 671-7266

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). Digital videos are to be sent to Andrew Denard (mailing address to be provided at a later date).

Dr. N. H. Jones Elementary
An Academy of Math, Science, Technology and Media Production.
G. Don Raymond, Principal

Our mission at Dr. N. H. Jones is to create an innovative environment where ALL children, regardless of differences, will excel in basic academics with enhanced learning in math, science, technology and media production. We are dedicated to excellence in education so that each child will become a productive citizen in an ever-changing world.

The mission statement at Dr. N.H. Jones Elementary exemplifies the educational philosophy of its leader, G. Don Raymond. At Dr. N.H. Jones, Don has created an environment where all children not only excel in all areas of the curriculum but also are engaged in the learning process and work collaboratively developing skills needed for the 21st century. The classrooms at Dr. N.H. Jones involve all members of the learning community. Teachers, students, parents, and business partners are active participants in the learning process, helping to expand the classroom beyond the four walls into the community. Students are engaged in authentic tasks that have a connection to the real world.

School Demographic Information

Dr. N. H. Jones is a magnet school that takes students from the immediate neighboring community. The walk-in area is 99% African American. Other students throughout the district are accepted through an application process. The overall population is 35% minority and 65% majority. About 30% of the students qualify for free or reduced priced lunch. The total population for the 2007-08 school year is 744 students. The campus is about 45 years old with two new buildings that were built six years ago. Eight portable classrooms are being used until a new wing is completed.

Accomplishments for the school

- Awarded 75% of the county media awards each year
- 2-12 state media awards awarded each year
- 1-4 international media awards awarded each year
- "A" school for the past 6 years.
- Named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2005.

Principal's Background

- 2001- present Principal, Dr. N. H. Jones Elementary Ocala
- 1996-2001 Assistant Principal, Ward Highlands Ocala
- 1991-96 Assistant Principal, Harbour View Ocala
- 1990-91 Dean, Fort King Ocala
- 1989-90 Teacher, Emerald Shores Ocala
- 1986-89 Teacher, Madison Street Ocala
- 1982-86 Principal, St. Pius, Wauwatosha, Wi
- 1977-82 Principal, St. Leo, Milwaukee, Wi
- 1972-77 Teacher, Holy Angels, Chicago, Il
- 1968-72 US Navy

Technology Accomplishments

- 1972-82 Opened the first private school computer lab in Milwaukee. This was a remediation lab. Established a student radio station and set up a small studio for making student video production.
- 1982-86 Established an enrichment computer lab
- 1982-87 As a teacher in a new technology pilot school helped to establish how technology would be used in the classroom. Was the first user of LCD panel projectors and introduced student led technology uses.

- 1982-88 Set up two computers in every classroom. Introduced the Accelerated reader program which was eventually adopted by the entire county. Established a local area network with sharing of programs. Developed a staff development program to train teachers in the use of the available technology. Helped redefine our student led television show.
- 1982-89 Established a program with three computers in a room.
- 1982-90 Wired the parts of campus that were not on the network with a temporary network. Established an email system. Set up a staff development program. Set up two computer labs, one for teaching computer literacy and one for a combination of enrichment and remediation. Established a five year plan for the use of technology.

IN CURRENT POSITION Facilitated the following:

- There are three computer labs on campus – one for technology instruction, one for media production, one for a combination of remediation and enrichment.
- Three mobile computer labs are available for teachers to use in classrooms or anywhere learning takes place.
- Every classroom has at least 6 computers that are networked and less than one year old.
- Twenty data projectors are available for teachers to use with instruction. Every room is equipped with either a data projector or a 32 inch television for projecting computer images during the instruction process.
- The television studio and video production lab is equipped with state of the art equipment. K-5 students have opportunities to work with this equipment producing digital media projects that directly relate to the curriculum. Many of these student-produced projects are uploaded into video-on-demand hardware for use by other classes and students.
- The school is entirely wireless allowing teachers and students to use technology anytime, anywhere.
- Staff development is provided on most Tuesdays and two Mondays a month.
- A technology coordinator position is unique to the campus. The coordinator works one on one and with small groups of teachers to teach them new programs and uses of technology. The coordinator also works with small groups of students on media production.
- Three self-contained highly gifted classrooms are a part of our enhanced learning. The students in these classrooms do not use textbooks. They utilize technology, the internet and other digital resources instead for instruction.

Teachers provide opportunities for students to explore topics and learn through discovery. They teach skills and not facts. They are teaching critical thinking and problem solving in an attempt to teach skills that will help prepare children for the future and for jobs that do not exist today. Technology is a tool that is motivating the students and providing them opportunities to become 21st century learners.

G. Don Raymond, as the principal of Marion County's technology magnet school, has the vision to lead his teachers and students into the 21st century. Students today are digital learners. They learn best when lessons are authentic and relevant to their world. Using technology as the tool, Don makes sure his students are prepared for the future.

It is with great honor, that I nominate G. Don Raymond for the 2007-08 Innovative Principal of the Year Award.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Walrath Needham