



Ohio Middle Level Association 2026 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR Nomination Form

The Educator-of-the-Year award is the most distinguished honor the Ohio Middle Level Association can bestow upon an individual to recognize his or her contributions to middle level education.

Nomination Criteria

- Nominator must be a current member of the Ohio Middle Level Association
- Individual nominated may be a teacher, administrator, or parent.
- Nominee must be a current member of the Ohio Middle Level Association.
- Previous recipients may not be nominated for the award.

Application Criteria

- Describe how the nominated individual promotes the middle school concept through involvement in exemplary programs, leadership, or research that serves the needs of middle level students.
- Describe how the candidate is involved at the local, regional, and state levels.

Awarding the Honor

- A committee of the Ohio Middle Level Association Executive Board members will review all applications and determine the award recipient.
- The selected Educator-of-the-Year will be recognized at the OMLA annual state conference.

Application Deadline: March 6, 2026

Ohio Middle Level Association Educator of the Year Award Previous recipients who are not eligible for this award:

1979 Burt Reed	1995 William Kaderly	2011 Tom Burton
1980 Gordan Vars	1996 Dana Cowardin	2013 Patricia Grove
1981 Vince Barra	1997 Ed Vittardi	2014 Jay Clark
1982 Herb Broda	1998 Diana Haap	2015 Wendy Fragarasse
1983 John Haschak	1999 Barbara Miller	2016 James Trogden
1984 Bob Edwards	2000 Steve Raines	2016 Nancy Wanyerka
1985 Rob Hayden	2001 Nancy Polisenio	2017 Kyle Leatherman
1986 Wayne Ambrose	2002 Don Jostworth	2018 Michelle Koussa
1987 Helena Sturkey	2003 Janet Litzel	2019 Lorrie Kubaszewski
1988 Larry Lewis	2004 David Kommer	2020 Matt Smith
1989 Charlotte Wagner	2005 Charles Beard	2021 Cindy Dorsey
1990 Gordan Gerber	2006 Ferald Manganello	2022 Paul Destino
1991 Philip Binkley	2007 Shannon Federinko	2023 Tiffany Shaw
1992 Joe Mucciarone	2008 John Swaim	2024 Kimberly Cockley
1993 Tom Bletcher	2009 Jack Berckemeyer	2025 Derek Varansky
1994 Susan Wynn	2010 Dona Gardner Klein	



Ohio Middle Level Association
2026 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR
Nomination Form

Please print or type all information.

Name of Nominee: _____

Nominee's School: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Current Position: _____

Describe how the nominated individual promotes the middle school concept through involvement in exemplary programs, leadership, or research that serves the needs of middle level students.

Describe how the candidate is involved at the local, regional, and state levels.

Principal's Name: _____

Principal's Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Please submit a narrative stating the basis for this nomination.

Name of recommending OMLA Member: _____

School: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Send completed nomination
form and/or additional support
for this nomination to:**

Tiffany Shaw
11384 Whitetail Run NW
Bolivar, OH 44612
tiffany.shaw@tvtrojans.org

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than March 6, 2026