

Please Post

2013
Santa Barbara County
Teacher of the Year
Outstanding Educator Program

**Application deadline:
Friday, March 2, 2012**

This application may be
copied as needed.

For more information:
(805) 964-4711, ext. 5281

November 1, 2011

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum and Personnel Administrators,
PTA Presidents, Professional Organizations, Student Government
Presidents, Teachers Network Liaisons

FROM: William J. Cirone 

RE: 2013 County Teacher of the Year/Distinguished Educator Program

I am writing to ask your help in providing encouragement to outstanding teachers to apply for the Teacher of the Year Program. We remain convinced that this program brings positive attention to the successful applicant, the district where that teacher works, and public education in general, as the media cover the award and describe what makes the individual so outstanding. Being named Teacher of the Year is one of the highest honors a teacher can achieve, both in Santa Barbara County and at the state and national level. We know for certain that we have many absolutely outstanding teachers in our classrooms countywide, yet some of our very best teachers are extremely modest and do not feel comfortable recommending themselves for recognition. For this reason, it often takes encouragement and support from others for them to submit applications.

It may help facilitate the selection process to emphasize that a teacher recommended for this award represents the interests and concerns of all teachers in our county, and is one of many truly exemplary teachers in our classrooms. School sites, districts, or small regions may want to collaborate and focus their selections on a particular theme, such as teachers who represent exceptional dedication to the teaching profession or outstanding mentoring of beginning teachers.

Please inform your teachers about this opportunity and encourage those qualified to apply.

Following the reading of the applications by the selection committee, members will make classroom visits and interview finalists. As part of the interview process, candidates will give a brief presentation on an educational issue important to them. In addition to selecting one teacher to be nominated for the California Teacher of the Year, the committee may select Outstanding Educators, who also serve as spokespersons for education in our county. The Masons will honor the County Teacher of the Year during Public Schools Month in April, and the Santa Barbara County Board of Education will present an award of \$500. This year's timeline:

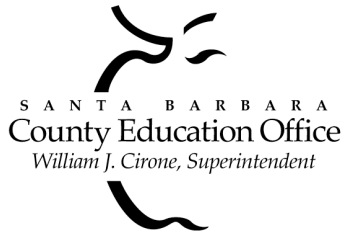
March 2, 2012

Applications due

May 3, 2012

County Teacher of the Year announced

The 2013 Santa Barbara County Teacher of the Year will be asked to complete the lengthier state application for California Teacher of the Year in Aug. 2012. Thank you very much for your help and support of this important program. Helping identify positive, success stories about teachers and public education helps support the entire institution.



Santa Barbara County Education Office

4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, P.O. Box 6307, Santa Barbara, California 93160-6307
(805) 964-4711 • FAX: (805) 964-4712 • Direct Dial: 964-4710 plus extension

Service and Leadership • www.sbceo.org

2013
Santa Barbara County
Teacher of the Year Application

Please use the following format.

A. General Information

1. Name
2. Home address
3. Home phone
4. E-mail address
5. Social Security Number
6. Current school and position
7. School phone number and your extension
8. Major subject area(s), specializations, if any
9. Grade level(s) currently teaching
10. Total years teaching experience
11. Number of years in current position

B. Signatures

I hereby give permission to the Santa Barbara County Education Office to use any of the attached materials in promoting the Santa Barbara County Teacher of the Year program.

Applicant

Principal

District Superintendent

Over, please

C. Introductory Letter

Three double-spaced pages maximum.

1. Write an introductory letter from yourself to the selection committee that:
 - Explains what it's like to be in a class you teach and includes your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching.
 - Poses and answers two questions addressing key educational issues—local, state or national.
 - Includes an inspirational vignette that illustrates an important aspect of education.

D. Information

1. Educational History and Professional Development Activities.

Two double-spaced pages maximum.

- a) Colleges and universities attended, dates of attendance, degrees.
- b) Teaching employment history, time period, grade level, subject areas.
- c) Professional association memberships, offices held, other relevant activities.
- d) Activities in staff development and training of future teachers.
- e) Awards, other recognitions.
- f) Leadership or spokesperson activities.

2. Community Involvement.

One double-spaced page maximum.

- a) Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities such as volunteer work, civic, and other group activities.

E. Letters of Recommendation

You may include *three* letters of recommendation. Suggested writers include: principal or superintendent, teacher colleague, parent, student, or civic leader. It helps if letters include specific examples of the recommender's experiences with you. **Please limit the length of each recommendation letter to one page maximum.**

*Application must be **received** by: Friday, March 2, 2012*

Please send by mail or county truck to:

Teacher Programs Department
Santa Barbara County Education Office
4400 Cathedral Oaks Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
(805) 964-4711 ext. 5281