NAESP is pleased to feature the 2015 National Distinguished Principals (NDPs), individuals who exemplify the highest attributes of the elementary and middle-level principalship and who demonstrate significant career accomplishments; dedication to education; exemplary leadership; high standards for instruction and student achievement; and lasting contributions to their entire school communities.

This prestigious program, established in 1984, promotes and celebrates excellence in educational leadership for pre-K-8 education, and it highlights the fundamental importance of elementary and middle-level principals as primary catalysts for creating a lasting foundation for learning, driving school and student performance, and for shaping the long-term impact of school improvement. The program is conducted by NAESP in corporate partnership with VALIC, a financial services company specializing in retirement programs.

Each class of NDPs includes principals who lead elementary and middle-level schools in both the public and private sectors and the U.S. Department of State American Overseas Schools. The individuals representing public schools are initially nominated by their peers and colleagues in their home state. Final selections are made by executives and volunteer leaders of NAESP’s state-affiliated associations. Special committees select principals from among those nominated by private education associations and from the schools affiliated with the U.S. Department of State American Overseas Schools.

Nomination and selection criteria, established by NAESP, require, among other factors, that the NDP candidate is a practicing principal of a school that (1) is clearly committed to excellence; (2) has programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students; and (3) has firm ties to parents and the school community. Candidates must show evidence of outstanding contributions to the community and the education profession. Visit www.naesp.org for additional details.

ABOUT NAESP

NAESP, founded in 1921, is a professional association serving elementary and middle school leaders in the United States, Canada, and internationally. It operates through a network of affiliated associations.
Representing Public Schools

**Laurie K. King**  
Crestline Elementary School  
Mountain Brook City Schools  
Mountain Brook, Alabama

**Anita A. Stevens**  
Chinook Elementary School  
Anchorage School District  
Anchorage, Alaska

**Christopher R. Barnes**  
Corte Sierra Elementary School  
Litchfield Elementary School District  
Avondale, Arizona

**Melissa L. Fink**  
Jones Elementary School  
Springdale School District  
Springdale, Arkansas

**Dion J. Stevens**  
Southside Middle School  
Southside School District  
Batesville, Arkansas

**Lisa D. Gonzales-Solomon**  
Lowell Elementary School  
Santa Ana Unified School District  
Santa Ana, California

**Jennifer Passchier**  
Crawford Elementary School  
Aurora Public Schools  
Aurora, Colorado

**Alicia M. Bowman**  
West Woods Upper Elementary School  
Farmington Public Schools  
Farmington, Connecticut

**Charlynne J. Hopkins**  
John M. Clayton Elementary School  
Indian River School District  
Frankford, Delaware

**Angela Murphy-Osborne**  
Palmetto Elementary School  
Orange County Public Schools  
Orlando, Florida

**Christi Hildebrand**  
Elm Street Elementary School  
Coweta County School System  
Newnan, Georgia

**Melanie H. Sigler**  
Burney-Harris-Lyons Middle School  
Clarke County School District  
Athens, Georgia
Malaea Wetzel
Haleiwa Elementary School
Central Oahu School District
Haleiwa, Hawaii

BJ DeAustin
Garwood Elementary School
Lakeland District #272
Rathdrum, Idaho

Marsha Jones
Lost Creek Elementary School
Vigo County School District
Terre Haute, Indiana

Julie J. Trepa
Paul Norton Elementary School
Bettendorf Community School District
Bettendorf, Iowa

Kimberly G. Mitchell
Bonner Springs Elementary School
Unified School District 204
Bonner Springs, Kansas

Lynley D. Schroering
Lahr Elementary School
Jefferson County Public Schools
Louisville, Kentucky

Debbie Kay Fuller
Mansfield Elementary School
DeSoto Parish School System
Mansfield, Louisiana

Patrick Mackin
Slidell Junior High School
St. Tammany Parish School District
Slidell, Louisiana

Tracy L. Williams
W.G. Mallett School
Mt. Blue Regional School District (RSU 9)
Farmington, Maine

Carol E. Hahn
Bellows Spring Elementary School
Howard County Public School System
Ellicott City, Maryland

David N. Keim
Fred W. Miller Elementary School
Sam Placino Elementary School
Holliston School District
Holliston, Massachusetts

Jeremey Whan
Bemis Elementary School
Troy School District
Troy, Michigan

Mark French
Rice Lake Elementary School
Osseo Area Schools
Maple Grove, Minnesota

Kelli G. Brown
Petal Elementary School
Petal School District
Petal, Mississippi

Jasmine L. Briedwell
Lake Contrary Elementary
St. Joseph School District
St. Joseph, Missouri
WH Aaron Griffin
Frenchtown Elementary School
Frenchtown School District #40
Frenchtown, Montana

JoAnne K. Roberts
Grant Elementary School
Lincoln Elementary School
Norfolk Public Schools
Norfolk, Nebraska

Anna M. Parrill
Dr. Lewis F. Soule School
Salem School District
Salem, New Hampshire

Paula Southard-Stevens
Charlestown Middle School
Fall Mountain Regional School District
Charlestown, New Hampshire

Emil Carafa, Jr.
Washington Elementary School
Lodi School District
Lodi, New Jersey

Eloisa Solis
Central Elementary School
Las Cruces Public Schools
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Charles A. Smilinich
Colonial Village Elementary School
Niagara Wheatfield Central School District
Niagara Falls, New York

Steve M. Lassiter, Jr.
Pactolus School
Pitt County Schools
Greenville, North Carolina

Lynn M. Wolf
Sunrise Elementary School
Bismarck Public Schools
Bismarck, North Dakota

Glen L. Stacho
Drake Elementary School
Strongsville City School District
Strongsville, Ohio

Donna Jo Boles
Perkins-Tryon Intermediate School
Perkins-Tryon Public Schools
Perkins, Oklahoma

Scott W. Drue
Aloha-Huber Park K-8 School
Beaverton School District
Beaverton, Oregon

Mary Beth Grove
East York Elementary School
York Suburban School District
York, Pennsylvania

Louise K. Seitsinger
Tiogue Elementary School
Coventry Public Schools
Coventry, Rhode Island
Claire D. Thompson
Lake Murray Elementary School
District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties
Chapin, South Carolina

Brad L. Olinger
Flandreau Elementary School
Flandreau Public Schools
Flandreau, South Dakota

Robin M. Pinder
Homestead Elementary School
Cumberland County School District
Crossville, Tennessee

Diane D. Gough
Hewitt Elementary School
Midway Independent School District
Hewitt, Texas

Ross G. Lunceford
Lincoln Elementary School
Ogden School District
Ogden, Utah

Kristin A. Hubert
Northwest Primary School
Rutland City Public Schools
Rutland, Vermont

Pamela R. Johnson
Falling Creek Elementary
Chesterfield County Public Schools
Richmond, Virginia

Taj R. Jensen
Tyee Park Elementary School
Clover Park School District
Lakewood, Washington

Elizabeth J. Moore
Pinch Elementary School
Kanawha County Schools
Elkview, West Virginia

Sandra Pelletier Mountain
Random Lake Elementary School
School District of Random Lake
Random Lake, Wisconsin

Brenda Creel
Alta Vista Elementary School
Laramie County School District #1
Cheyenne, Wyoming
Representing Private Schools

Kristin M. Olson  
First Lutheran School  
Evangelical Lutheran Education Association  
Torrance, California

Scott A. Schumacher  
St. Peter’s Lutheran School  
Lutheran Schools of Indiana – Lutheran Church Missouri Synod  
Columbus, Indiana

Anne Reap  
Trenton Catholic Academy Lower School  
Diocese of Trenton  
Hamilton, New Jersey

Philip R. Riley, Jr.  
Saint Monica Catholic School  
Diocese of Dallas  
Dallas, Texas

Mary Pat Schlickenmaier  
Saint Rita Catholic School  
Diocese of Arlington  
Alexandria, Virginia

Representing U.S. Department of State American Overseas Schools

Catarina Song Chen  
Escola Americana de Belo Horizonte  
(The American School of Belo Horizonte)  
U.S. Department of State - Office of Overseas Schools  
Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Michael Schooler  
International Community School of Addis Ababa  
U.S. Department of State – Office of Overseas Schools  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia