

Private & Independent Education Awards Nomination Form ~ 2026

Nominations must be submitted by Monday, February 16 at 5:00 PM

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Your Contact Information

2. Name *

3. Verify email *

4. School/Organization

5. Address/city/zip

6. Phone number

7. I will be nominating *

Mark only one oval.

☐ an individual for an award

☐ a program for an award

Individual nominee contact information

8. Nominee's name

9. Nominee's school/organization

10. Nominee's email address (if known)

11. Nominee's Position (If applicable)

12. Nominee's grades served (if known/applicable)

13. This individual is being nominated for the following award:

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Leadership *Skip to question 17*
- ☐ Honor teacher *Skip to question 16*
- ☐ Community champion *Skip to question 15*
- ☐ Behind the scenes *Skip to question 14*

Behind the Scenes

This award honors the unsung heroes whose tireless efforts keep school communities thriving behind the scenes. Whether they're staff members, coaches, volunteers, parents, or other superstars working outside the spotlight, these individuals create a welcoming, supportive, and caring environment for all. Their quiet dedication deserves to be recognized and celebrated!

14. Recount an instance in which this nominee worked "behind the scenes" supporting this school beyond the classroom. (1000 word limit)

Skip to question 25

Community Champion

This award celebrates the impactful efforts of individuals or groups who positively influence both the school and its surrounding community. Through generosity, advocacy, or raising awareness, these champions create meaningful connections and make a lasting difference. Nominees may include board members, donors, and other dedicated supporters whose contributions strengthen and enrich the school and the broader community.

15. Name a specific instance in which this nominee has positively influenced both the school and the community. (1000 word limit)

Skip to question 25

Honor Teacher

This award celebrates teachers who set the gold standard in education by embodying the qualities that inspire and elevate their students. Nominees demonstrate:

- A genuine passion for students and learning.
- A spirit of integrity, fairness, compassion, and excellence.
- The ability to ignite creativity and innovation in their students.
- A commitment to personal and professional growth through community service and engagement.

These exceptional educators leave a lasting impact—inside and beyond the classroom.

16. Using the criteria listed above, describe why this nominee is an Honor Teacher. (1000 word limit)

Skip to question 25

Leadership

This award honors the vision, dedication, and impact of school heads, presidents, principals, superintendents, and executive directors. Nominees for the MINNDEPENDENT Leadership Award are individuals who:

- Inspire passion and purpose within themselves and their teams.
- Propose and successfully implement innovative ideas that drive progress.
- Exemplify the highest standards of integrity and ethical leadership.
- Foster positive change by effectively communicating with key stakeholders, both internal and external.
- Serve as steadfast advocates for the importance of private and independent education in Minnesota.

Through their leadership, these individuals create lasting, transformative impacts on their schools and communities.

17. Using the criteria listed above, describe why this nominee should receive the Leadership Award. (1000 word limit)

Skip to question 25

Program Nomination

18. Program name

Program contact information

19. Program contact's name

20. Program contact's position

21. Program contact's school/organization

22. Program contact's address, city, zip

23. Program contact's email address

Skip to question 24

Program award

This award recognizes an innovative and impactful program that elevates engagement and enhances academic achievement within the school community. Whether benefiting students, faculty, or the broader school environment, the program stands out for its creativity, success, and lasting contribution to the school's mission.

24. Using the criteria listed above, describe how this program contributes to the engagement and academic achievement for the school and its community. (1000 word limit)

Skip to question 25

Submission information

25. I understand that the contents of this application may be published on the MINNDEPENDENT website and in various print and promotional materials related or unrelated to the event. *

Check all that apply.

☐ I have read and agree to the above statement

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