

Nominate a Teacher for AUSD's Teacher of the Year!

Do you know a teacher who goes above and beyond in (and out of) the classroom? Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) is now accepting nominations for its Teacher of the Year program.

"This is one of my favorite annual programs," says Superintendent Sean McPhetridge. "It is an excellent forum for showcasing the creativity, commitment, and professionalism of the teachers in our district."

The Nomination Process

Nomination forms are available on the [Employee Recognition section page](#) of AUSD's website. Anyone can nominate a teacher; the deadline to submit nominations to the nominee's principal is 3 pm on December 17, 2018.

After being nominated, AUSD teachers who meet the county and state criteria are invited to participate in the next phase of the process, which requires them to submit an application packet (including a resume, an introductory letter, and letters of support) to the district office.

The AUSD Teacher of the Year Selection Committee then meets to screen applications and determine which applicants will move onto the next phase: classroom observations. During that stage, the Selection Committee members visit classrooms, interview finalists, and determine this year's Teacher of the Year. This year the members of the Selection Committee are:

- Jennifer Williams (Board Clerk, Board of Education)
- Judith Klinger (President, Alameda Education Association)
- Cammie Harris (Principal, Wood Middle School)
- Page Tomblin (President, PTA Council)
- Sandy Wong (Coordinator, AUSD Human Resources)
- Mary Otieku (2018 Teacher of the Year)
- Kevin Gorham (2017 Teacher of the Year)
- Amanda Cline (2016 Teacher of the Year)

The winner will be honored by the Board of Education in May and by the Alameda County Office of Education in the fall. He or she also becomes eligible for the Alameda County Teacher of the Year Award, as well as potentially the State Teacher of the Year Award.

The 2018 Teacher of the Year is Mary Otieku, who teaches at Bay Farm School. She was honored for her use of differentiated instruction, books from different cultures and mixed-race authors, classroom meetings, gratitude cards, respect for students, and clear and consistent communication with parents. The full press release is [here](#).