San Bernardino County **School Boards Association**

together with the

San Bernardino County
Superintendent of Schools

are proud to sponsor the

2022
SPRING AWARDS

a virtual celebration of excellence for

Education Medal of Honor and Distinguished Service Award Recipients

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY EDUCATION MEDAL OF HONOR

Distinguished Service Award

April 28, 2022

San Bernardino County **School Boards Association**

Spring Meeting Agenda

April 28, 2022 | 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Student Entertainment provided by
Citrus Valley High School, Granite Hills High School,
Oaks Middle School, A.B. Miller High School, Grand Terrace High School,
Basin Middle School Honor Band and Basin High School Honor Band

Call to Order	Mary Sandoval, SBCSBA President *Board Member, Fontana Unified School District*
Pledge of Allegiance	North Shore Elementary School *Bear Valley Unified School District*
Presentation of Colors	Arroyo Valley High School *San Bernardino City Unified School District*
National Anthem	Citrus Valley High School *Redlands Unified School District*
Words of Inspiration	Students from *North Shore Elementary School,* *Arroyo Valley High School, Bing Wong Elementary,* *Silverado High School, Barstow High School,* *Sultana High School, Serrano High School,* *Citrus Valley High School and Oak Hills High School*
SBCSBA President's Report	Mary Sandoval, SBCSBA President *Board Member, Fontana Unified School District*
CSBA Director's Report	Karen Gray, CSBA Region 16 Director *Board Member, Silver Valley Unified School District*

2022 Education Medal of Honor and Distinguished Service Awards

Recognition of Recipients	Mary Sandoval and Ted Alejandre





San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Volunteer in Action/Community Volunteer

Alexander Mattison

San Bernardino City Unified School District

Volunteer in Action/Service Group

Millionaire Mind Kids

High Desert Communities

Partners in Education/Small Business or Franchise

Toyota Motor North America

West End Communities

Partners in Education/Corporation or Government Agency

City of Fontana Mayor's Education Coalition

West End and East Valley Communities

Excellence in Education/Education Professional

Donna E. St. George, J.D.

Redlands Unified School District

Excellence in Education/Student Alumni

Phyllis Morris-Green, J.D.

Adelanto Elementary School District

San Bernardino County

Distinguished Service Award

2022 Recipients

Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.

Superintendent/President

Chaffey College

Adrienne Shepherd-Myles

CTE Program Manager

Desert/Mountain SELPA



San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

The Education Medal of Honor program annually recognizes individuals and groups who give outstanding service and support to public education within San Bernardino County. Five of the six categories underscore the contributions, commitment and dedication of community and business supporters of public schools. One category is for a notable educator. Twenty-eight individuals and organizations were nominated this year. Six designees receive the San Bernardino County Education Medal of Honor.

San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Volunteer in Action/Community Volunteer

Alexander Mattison



Minnesota Vikings Running Back Alexander Mattison is the recipient of the 2022 Education Medal of Honor, Volunteer in Action/Community Volunteer.

Following his rookie NFL season, Mattison branded and launched the "I AM GIFTED" clothing line in support of his philanthropic work. He is a positive community role model who shares hope by helping others realize they are innately gifted.

Born and raised in San Bernardino, Mattison is a graduate of San Bernardino City Unified School District. Due to circumstances out of his parent's control, Mattison and his family experienced homelessness during his childhood.

Judges recognized Mattison's drive to pay it forward. San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD) Superintendent Doc Irvin nominated Mattison. Irvin stated, "During regular trips back to his alma mater, he has used his platform to reinforce the powerful message that one's circumstances are not predictive of future success. In fact, he urges SBCUSD students to tap into the grit the rough and tumble city has bred in them and use that fortitude against all adversity."

Along with providing scholarships to students, Mattison visits school sites in San Bernardino to share his personal story of overcoming adversity. He hopes to motivate students to take advantage of the educational opportunities afforded to them and to show what they can achieve through education.

Mattison said, "There's no time to wait to help someone out, to lend a helping hand. I have the opportunity, the platform, to provide some of those resources. I just want to try and be a little bit of light in somebody's day, somebody's week, somebody's month, maybe even someone's life."

San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Volunteer in Action/Service Group

Millionaire Mind Kids



Millionaire Mind Kids, a non-profit organization founded by CEO Delores Williams, is the recipient of the 2022 Education Medal of Honor, Volunteer in Action/ Service Group.

Millionaire Mind Kids (MMK) not only promotes education but addresses the needs of students in the High Desert by engaging them in educational and positive activities during school breaks and year-round robotics programs. It serves to assist educators with reducing high school drop-out rates and closing educational gaps amongst under-served youth.

In collaboration with her two grandchildren, Williams designed and implemented youth and family programs for MMK to empower underserved students and inspire students to learn about STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) education, robotics and financial literacy.

One judge commented, "What a true gift both Delores and Millionaire Mind Kids are to local students. Exposing kids and getting students excited about STEM projects and opportunities is always so important. The fact that this grandma and her grandchildren took the bull by the horns to come up with this non-profit organization is so inspiring."

Adelanto Elementary School District (AESD) nominated MMK for the award and shared the impact the organization has had on students after partnering with the district to provide afterschool robotic programs.

"What I'm seeing with kids involved in the Millionaire Mind Kids afterschool program is excitement. They're excited. They're ready to get in the classroom," said AESD Superintendent Dr. Kennon Mitchell. "And most importantly, they're learning synergy and how to work with other people and diverse thinkers."

San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Partners in Education/Small Business or Franchise

Toyota Motor North America



Toyota Motor North America, represented by Warehouse Operations Manager Arturo Esquivel, is the recipient of the 2022 Education Medal of Honor, Partners in Education/Small Business or Franchise.

Ontario-Montclair School District Superintendent Dr. James Q. Hammond, recognized Esquivel's role in connecting Toyota Motor North America to programs serving students and families in the West End communities.

"One of the most crucial partnerships, in addition to parents and families, is really linking with the business community, so I'm very appreciative of Toyota Motor North America for being active partners in wanting to bring a heightened awareness to the importance of readiness for students about to go into the workforce," said Dr. Hammond.

Esquivel began his engagement and outreach with the Chaffey High School Toyota Mentor program in 2007. He regularly presents for Career Days at schools across the Ontario-Montclair School District and has provided a bridge for students at Chaffey Joint Union High School District to perform at various events held by Toyota. He has also been instrumental in the Promise Scholars program and has helped keep families safe on the roadways by offering Buckle Up for Life safety presentations.

Judges recognized Esquivel's commitment to support students and their families through education and his drive for meaningful change.

"Mr. Esquivel epitomizes the definition of a mentor and community partner," one judge commented. "He gives from both his heart and his wallet and should be commended and recognized for his efforts."

San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Partners in Education/Corporation or Government Agency

City of Fontana Mayor's Education Coalition



The City of Fontana Mayor's Education Coalition is the recipient of the 2022 Education Medal of Honor, Partners in Education/Corporation or Government Agency.

The Mayor's Education Coalition was created by Fontana Mayor Acquanetta Warren in 2012 to unite the chamber of commerce, business community, school districts and other partners to service students in the area.

Mayor Warren said the purpose of the coalition is to come together for one purpose: to ensure every child in Fontana has some type of path to higher education and/or employment. The Mayor's Education Coalition has organized several events to provide students an opportunity to learn professional skills and to connect students with local business owners to explore different career paths.

"When I was growing up, what we lacked was the strong education bond, and that's something I want no child to ever have to experience," said Mayor Warren. "I want the community coming in and working with all these districts to make sure that every child is successful."

Judges recognized how the Fontana Mayor's Education Coalition inspires students to be career and college ready through programs such as the "Planes, Trains & Autonomous Vehicles Initiative," which introduced students from Fontana Unified, Rialto Unified, Colton Joint Unified and Chaffey Joint Union High School Districts to careers in aviation, auto mechanics, rail transportation and supply chain management.

A judge commented, "The enormity of the endeavor, and the collaboration between multiple agencies makes this project worthy of the Medal of Honor."

San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Excellence in Education/Education Professional

Donna E. St. George, J.D.



Donna E. St. George, J.D., is the recipient of the 2022 Education Medal of Honor, Excellence in Education/Education Professional for her passion, dedication and commitment to students.

Dr. St. George, affectionately referred to as "DSG," has served as an educator in San Bernardino County for over 36 years in various capacities at the Yucaipa, Rialto and San Bernardino school districts. She served the majority of her career as a teacher at Redlands High School, where she recently retired.

Part of Dr. St. George's legacy can be found in Redlands High School's award-winning Mock Trial program, which brought home the most county championship titles in the history of the county competition. Dr. St. George also provided mentorship as a coach for Academic Decathlon, and judges recognized her impact on students' lives. She is known among her colleagues as not just a teacher, but a one-of-a-kind, life-changing mentor who has impacted the lives of countless students.

Redlands Unified School District Superintendent Mauricio Arellano nominated Dr. St. George for the award.

"Throughout her career, DSG has received several awards and recognitions at the district, county and state level. However, in no way has a title ever captured DSG's influence on her students, her peers, the community of the world of education during the past three decades for her career," said Arellano.

Dr. St. George said, "I've never been blessed to have kids of my own. I treated my students as my kids. So I'm in touch with a lot of them going all the way back to the early 90's, and that's very gratifying."

San Bernardino County

Education Medal of Honor

2022 Award Recipients

Excellence in Education/Student Alumni

Phyllis Morris-Green, J.D.



Phyllis Morris-Green, J.D. is the recipient of the 2022 Education Medal of Honor, Excellence in Education/Student Alumni for her dedication in creating more inclusive and equitable learning opportunities for students.

Dr. Morris-Green is an alumna of the Adelanto Elementary School District and Victor Valley Union High School District in the High Desert. As a graduate of U.C. Davis School of Law, Morris-Green began her career in San Bernardino County in 1984 and became the first African-American public defender in the county.

Dr. Morris-Green believes her law degree should not be limited to the courtroom, instead, used to serve as a community defender. Since the 1980's she has worked to build a bridge for youth to understand their voices are important. She continues to encourage youth to get involved in civic engagement and teach them how to pursue positive changes politically, economically and socially by visiting classrooms.

Dr. Morris-Green retired in 2018 and said over her 34-year law career she was compelled to action after seeing how many of her clients were illiterate and high school dropouts.

"Their minds were brilliant, but I saw how the lack of education affected the choices they made in their lives. I began to truly understand the value of education," she said. "Growing up, people invested in me, and I saw it was my opportunity now to invest in youth."

As the chairperson for Reimagining Our Communities, Dr. Morris-Green educates youth and young adults on various vehicles available for effectively moving advocacy from protest to legislation. She helped create a law and justice academy and is a member of San Bernardino County's Element Group Pursuing Equity.



San Bernardino County

Distinguished Service Award

2022 Recipients

The San Bernardino County School Boards Association and the San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization created the Distinguished Service Award program to celebrate exceptional service sustained over many years by an individual. The award recognizes significant leadership and outstanding contributions to education in San Bernardino County. Additional partners in the awards program are the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools and Fifth District PTA.

San Bernardino County

Distinguished Service Award

2022 Recipient

Superintendent/President of Chaffey College

Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.



Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D., has dedicated more than 50 years of service to education and is the recipient of the 2022 Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Shannon is the Superintendent and President of Chaffey College. He began his career in education in 1969 as an elementary school teacher in St. Louis, Missouri. During his decades of service, he was a counselor, a dean and served in various roles, including chancellor at St. Louis Community College District.

Under Dr. Shannon's leadership, Chaffey College launched a 10-Point Plan equity reform initiative to improve diversity in hiring, training and curriculum. He established the Center for Culture and Social Justice resource center, which creates a sense of belonging for historically underserved groups. He also established the Panther Care Program, which serves as a safety net for students in need by providing food, shelter and grants. His leadership has helped Chaffey College secure a generous gift of $25 million from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott to support students who are the first in their families to go to college, students of color and those from low socioeconomic backgrounds.

Dr. Shannon came from humble beginnings in Mississippi. He was the first in his family to go to college. He understands many of the students he currently serves are facing similar challenges of food and shelter insecurities. Dr. Shannon is a champion for equity among students.

"Dr. Shannon understands the plight of many first-generation college students," said Mark Vidal, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Chaffey College in his nomination of Dr. Shannon. "At Chaffey, he has made it his personal goal to ensure that students served in the region have pathways to success—regardless of socioeconomic status."

San Bernardino County

Distinguished Service Award

2022 Recipient

CTE Program Manager, Desert/Mountain SELPA

Adrienne Shepherd-Myles



Adrienne Shepherd-Myles has served in education for more than 30 years with a drive to create meaningful change and is the recipient of the 2022 Distinguished Service Award.

Shepherd-Myles is currently the program manager for Career Technical Education (CTE) with the Desert/Mountain Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA), a support services office that provides resources on issues related to special education and other supports to students.

Shepherd-Myles' career began at San Bernardino County Juvenile Hall as a counselor in 1991. She was a resource specialist and teacher in Rialto Unified and San Bernardino City Unified school districts. Her career took her to San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools' East Valley SELPA where she served as a program specialist before transitioning to Desert Mountain SELPA.

Shepherd-Myles is a forward-thinker who champions for change to benefit students and adults in San Bernardino County. She provides support for students with disabilities who are transitioning from school to adult life. She addresses challenges in the High Desert, like the shortage of supportive employment services for non-student youth and adults with disabilities, by broadening programs for all students.

While she had initially primarily worked with students with disabilities, she saw a need to link "disconnected youth" with work experience opportunities. Instead of limiting services to students with disabilities, she has actively pursued opportunities to expand services to non-student youth with adverse life situations such as being unhoused, a foster youth or a pregnant minor.

Her CTE team, together, nominated Shepherd-Myles for her leadership and thoughtful guidance.

Thank you!

We thank the nominators for their effort in recognizing and spotlighting individuals who are making positive contributions in educating our youth in San Bernardino County. We also thank this year's independent judging panels for their time and effort assessing the competitive nomination entries.

Mission Statement

The mission of San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools is to transform lives through education. Working in collaboration with school districts, other agencies, families and our community partners, we provide leadership, advocacy and services to ensure innovative, inspiring educational practices. This endeavor is essential to the quality of life and economic vitality of our communities.

Transforming lives through education

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