







ACHIEVEMENT INITIATIVE FOR MARYLAND'S MINORITY STUDENTS

EXCELLENCE FOR MINORITY ACHIEVEMENT NOMINATION

2003



The Excellence for Minority Achievement Recognition is an annual awards program to honor individuals and groups from education, community, and business who have made significant contributions to advance minority achievement in Maryland.

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This year's Excellence Awards Program is dedicated to the late Misters Reginald L. Dunn, former Vice President of the State Board, and Ernest J. Leatherbury, former member of the AIMMS Council – both true champions for educational equity.



*About the
Nancy S. Grasmick
Excellence for Minority Achievement Award*

In education, as in all other of life's arenas, diversity is a true constant. Thus, attributes, such as race, ethnicity, gender, disability, and economic status, all impact our lives both individually and collectively. Students do not enter schools from monolithic backgrounds, nor should their experiences in schools reflect isolated cultural contexts. Educators and community must act with the conviction that all students, regardless of background, can achieve. This belief is essential for their success today and in the future . Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick

The **Excellence for Minority Achievement Awards** were established in 1999 to inspire educators and the public in their efforts to enhance minority achievement as well as to reaffirm the tremendous potential of Maryland's minority students. The Maryland State Education That Is Multicultural (ETM) Council voted unanimously to name the award in honor of State Superintendent Nancy S. Grasmick for her resolute commitment to this issue. Throughout her career Dr. Grasmick has worked diligently and consistently to promote equitable outcomes among all students and to close gaps that exist in achievement among diverse groups of students.

The awards now come under the authority of the Achievement Initiative for Maryland's Minority Students (AIMMS) Council, a council comprised of education, business, and civic leaders from throughout Maryland, and the AIMMS Steering Committee. The Steering Committee in collaboration with and under authority of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) serves as a vehicle for coordinating and maintaining assistance to the MSDE and local school systems as those agencies take steps necessary to increase achievement among minority students and ultimately eliminate existing achievement gaps.

The Excellence for Minority Achievement Awards celebrate those individuals or groups who make outstanding contributions in striving to promote equity in educational opportunity for all students during their lives in school and beyond. The program includes the **AIMMS Excellence Scholarship Awards** to recognize students who have made outstanding contributions to encourage success and better understanding among diverse groups.



Nominations and Selection

The Excellence for Minority Achievement Awards recognize those who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in promoting student excellence through equity in education at either the local or state levels. Each school system is eligible to receive up to two awards, one to an educator and one to an outside individual, community group, or business that has made outstanding contributions to advance the success of students who reflect minority status, based on race/ethnicity, disability, or low socioeconomic backgrounds.

Nominations may be submitted by individuals, groups, or organizations, including schools and community members or groups.

Nominees must have contributed significantly in at least one of the following areas:

- Academic and/or community support of diverse student group(s)
- Promotion of positive intergroup relations and understanding
- Performance of service(s) to increase academic success among minority students
- Enhancement of curriculum, instruction, staff development, or resources to heighten success for a diverse group or groups

Nomination forms are included in this packet and must be completed and submitted by **July 25, 2003**. The packet contains a tear-off page on which to provide data about the nominee and to describe the nominee's contributions. Letters of support for the nominee and other related information may also be included with submissions. All nominations should be sent to ***Mr. Richard Steinke, Deputy Superintendent, Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.***

All nominees, nominators, and local superintendents will be notified of the results. Award recipients will be notified by August 25, 2003. Awards will be presented at the annual ceremony and dinner on October 30, 2003.

If there are any questions, please contact Dr. Barbara Dezmon at 410-887-2446.

*Additional nomination forms may be downloaded from the MSDE website at www.msde.state.md.us by going to Minority Achievement in Maryland and then clicking on "What's New."

Nominee Information (Please type or print.)

School System: _____

Check one award category: _____ Educator or _____ Community / Business

Check whether nominee is: _____ Individual or _____ Group

Name of Individual or Group Nominee: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

Complete this section only if nominee is educator.

School or Office Name: _____

Title / Position: _____

Other Awards and Honors Received by Nominee: _____

Nominator's Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

Nominator's Signature: _____

***Return nomination by July 25, 2003 to: Mr. Richard Steinke, Deputy Superintendent,
Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.***

Nominee's Contributions (This page must be typed.)

Describe the nominee's contributions according to at least one of the areas listed on the "Nominations and Selection" page of this packet. Indicate how the nominee's performance is outstanding and what results for students have been accomplished.

Do not type below this line.

***Achievement Initiative for Maryland's Minority Students
(AIMMS) Council***

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MR. STEVE GEPPI

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