

Press Release

District Administration magazine names 34 ‘Districts of Distinction’

Innovative districts nationwide honored in DA’s annual awards program

TRUMBULL, Conn.—(July 15, 2019)—In its July/August edition, *District Administration* magazine honors 34 school districts as “Districts of Distinction.” This is the ninth round of honorees for this national recognition program, which began in November 2014.

Districts of Distinction was established by *District Administration* magazine to honor school districts that are leading the way with new ideas that solve challenges. Honorees are selected based on quantifiable results and the replicability of their initiatives. The July 2019 Districts of Distinction honorees were selected by the magazine’s editors from numerous nominations.

The 34 school systems from 19 states honored in this round have launched programs that range from partnering with outside organizations for career training to improving literacy to using music to support at-risk students and English language learners.

The Eminence Independent School District is being recognized for its Eminence Exemplars and their Graduate Profile, in which they designed an innovative approach to education called the School on F.I.R.E. (Framework of Innovation for Reinventing Education). The framework which centers around their Graduate Profile includes three standards for each of their eight graduate profile elements per grade level. These standards, which begin in Kindergarten, now define what successful proficiency looks like for these “essential skills”. Students are required to begin earning micro-credentials in auto-cad, coding, laser cutting, additive and subtractive 3d printing, speaking in front of the community, design thinking, philanthropy, technology, perseverance, competing in a global marketplace, 30 in depth college and career explorations, passion projects, and many more. Key components also include their Student-Led Progress Meetings (2X a year) and their Panel Defenses at 5th, 8th, and 12th grades.

“These districts have developed innovative programs to support students in their education and well beyond the classroom,” says JD Solomon, editorial director of *District Administration* magazine. “We hope our readers are inspired by the efforts of these honorees to create successful initiatives in their own districts.”

To view a full list of the 2019 honorees, and to apply for the 2020 round of the Districts of Distinction program, visit districtadministration.com/dod.

About District Administration

District Administration, part of LRP Media Group, provides K-12 leaders with critical news and information for school district management through its monthly magazine, website, e-newsletters and the District Administration Leadership Institute. For more information, visit districtadministration.com.