

Nevada Milken Educator Awards

State Board of Education Meeting

July 26, 2023

Presentation Outcomes

The State Board of Education will receive an overview of the Milken Educator Award (MEA) program and present the MEA Obelisk to Nevada's 2022 recipients Liz Barnum, Jason Murray, and Rejily Soriano.

Overview

- Milken Family Foundation Awards
- Recipients receive \$25,000 of unrestricted funds
- Targets early-to-mid-career educators that are unsung heroes providing exemplary service
- Process is confidential and the recipients receive the award at a surprise school-wide event

Goals of the Program

- To honor and reward outstanding K-12 educators for the quality of their teaching, their professional leadership, their engagement with families and the community, and their potential for even greater contributions to the healthy development of children.
- To focus public attention on the importance of excellent educators.
- To encourage able, caring, and creative people to choose the challenge, service, and adventure of teaching as a career.
- To create national and state networks of Milken Educators that:
 - foster the active professional development and career enhancement of Milken Educators and other professionals,
 - encourage Milken Educators to help shape the educational policies that influence their classrooms and schools,
 - connect Milken Educators with the educational improvement efforts of state and federal education agencies, universities, educators, corporate partners and others.
- To engage corporate and foundation partners in assisting Milken Educators and in supporting policies that advance education.

Criteria for Selection

- Sourced via a confidential process
- Reviewed by a blue-ribbon panel facilitated by the Department
- Final approval is done by the Milken Family Foundation
- Recommended educators must include all of the following:
 - Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective and innovative instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school.
 - Exemplary educational accomplishments and leadership beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession;
 - Be individuals whose contributions to education are largely unheralded yet worthy of the spotlight.
 - Be early- to mid-career educators who offer strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership.
 - Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues, and the community.

Liz Barnum

**2022 - 2023 Nevada
Milken Educator**

3rd Grade Teacher

**Katherine Dunn
Elementary School**

**Washoe County School
District**

[Announcement Video](#)

[MEA Profile](#)



Jason Murray

**2022 - 2023 Nevada
Milken Educator**

3rd/4th Grade Teacher

**Florence Drake
Elementary School**

**Washoe County School
District**

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Rejily Soriano

**2022 - 2023 Nevada
Milken Educator**

Kindergarten Teacher

**West Wendover
Elementary School**

**Elko County School
District**

[Announcement Video](#)

[MEA Profile](#)



Celebrate – Elevate – Activate



Special thanks to the Milken Family Foundation for the logo, photos and biographies.