



Media Release

September 22, 2022

SD 22 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education Nominees.

The Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education program was launched in 2018. This year it will honour thirty-four education professionals from throughout B.C. have been named as finalists in this year's Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education. The awards honour public, independent and First Nations school teachers, principals, vice-principals, school and district leaders, and support staff who go above and beyond to make life better for K-12 students in B.C.

During the nomination period, from October of 2021 to March of 2022, 113 nominations were received.

"We are extremely proud to have four nominees selected from School District 22 for the 2022 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education", states Board of Education Chair, Gen Acton. "These four are representative of the terrific leadership we have in all our classrooms."

School District 22 finalists are:

For Community engagement

- Tom Craik, teacher, Ellison Elementary, SD 22 (Vernon)

For Outstanding Team Collaboration

- Corinne McWhinney (team 3), was District Technology Innovation Coordinator, SD 22 (Vernon); currently is Vice-Principal of vLearn.
- Joshua Vance (team 3), was Vice-principal, Kalamalka Secondary, SD 22 (Vernon); is currently District Principal of vLearn and Academies, and Career Education.
- Timothy Agnew (team 3), is Director of Technology, SD 22 (Vernon). Tim will be leaving the district in November to work at the provincial level with Focused Ed.

Board Chair Acton will accompany the four to a ceremony at Government House in Victoria on Oct. 14, 2022.

Each winner will receive a \$3,000 personal bursary for professional learning, a \$2,000 contribution to their school for professional learning, and a commemorative trophy. Runners-up will each receive a \$1,000 personal bursary for professional learning and a \$1,000 contribution to their school for professional learning.

For more information about the Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/teach/excellence-in-education>