

# Awards & Recognitions Programs

(Remember our [Middle Level Distinguished Student Awards Celebrations](#) for students!)

## **A+ Administrator**

**Purpose:** NELMS seeks to honor administrators who value, understand and support effective middle level education that promotes powerful learning for young adolescents.

### **Selection Criteria:**

- Understands how young adolescents learn
- Champions middle level education by:
  - actively promoting and advocating middle level education
  - building community support
  - recognizing middle level as a distinct entity of education
- Supports and models effective middle level philosophy
- Encourages professional development in middle level best practices
- Provides leadership and supervision of effective instructional practices and student outcomes



## *Beane-Brodhagen Award*

### **Beane-Brodhagen “Exemplary Integrated Unit” Award**

**Purpose:** NELMS seeks to identify educators who have developed and/or implemented creative and effective instructional/curricular strategies consistent with middle level education.

### **Selection Criteria Evidence of:**

- High expectations for all students
- Demonstrates active learning by students and connects to community /real life applications
- Actively involves students in decision-making, choices of activities, and assessment
- Celebrates diversity
- Utilizes a variety of appropriate instructional techniques

## **Master in the Middle Award**

**Purpose:** NELMS seeks to honor teachers who are devoted to young adolescents, committed to best middle practices, and who have taught for four (4) or more years.

### **Selection Criteria:**

- Passionate about middle level education
- Currently teaching middle level students
- Serves as an educational leader
- Advocates for the middle level community
- Provides formal/informal mentoring to colleagues
- Models effective middle level instructional practices, such as:
  - Incorporating activity-based learning
  - Developing a sense of student ownership in their learning
  - Integrating higher order thinking
  - Fostering curriculum connections
  - Using a variety of assessment tools
  - Building relationships with students and families





### **Parent & Community Award**

**Purpose:** NELMS seeks to honor parent/community groups that value, understand and support effective middle level education which promotes effective teaching and learning for young adolescents.

**Selection Criteria:**

- Understands and actively supports the development of young adolescents
- Champions middle level education by:
  - recognizing middle level as a distinct entity of education
  - actively promoting middle level activities and programs
  - building community support

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### **Promising Practitioner Award**

**Purpose:** NELMS seeks to honor teachers beginning their teaching career, who have one to three years of teaching experience.

**Selection Criteria:**

- Enjoys teaching middle level students
- Makes a positive difference in the school
- Fosters community connections
- Seeks professional development and implements innovative ideas
- Meets the needs of individual students, using effective middle level practices such as:
  - Incorporating activity-based learning
  - Developing a sense of student ownership in their learning
  - Integrating higher order thinking
  - Fostering curriculum connections



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### **Superintendent Award**

**Purpose:** NELMS seeks to honor superintendents and assistant superintendents who value, understand, and support effective middle level education that promotes effective teaching and learning for young adolescents.

**Selection Criteria:**

- Understands how young adolescents learn
- Champions middle level education by:
  - actively promoting middle level education
  - building community support
  - recognizing middle level as a distinct entity of education
- Supports effective middle level education
- Encourages professional development in middle level best practices



**Application Process:** For more information about the application process and criteria, please visit <https://www.nelms.org/awards-recognitions>

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### **Spotlight School Award: Be Proud and Recognize Your School**



The purpose of the Spotlight School Award is to recognize schools that have a record of effective teaching and learning for young adolescents and consistently implement middle level best practices. A NELMS Spotlight School is recognized for developing strong effective programs that reflect concepts contained in *Turning Points 2000*, and *This We Believe*, and current middle level state recommendations.