



## **2022 NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL® PROGRAM FACT SHEET**

The annual National Distinguished Principal® (NDP) Program was established in 1984 to recognize elementary and middle school principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement and character of the students, families, and staff in their learning community.

### **Purpose**

The program promotes educational excellence for pre-kindergarten through eighth grade (pre-K–8) schooling and calls attention to the fundamental importance of the school principal. Recognition for the exceptional leadership of the men and women who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of pre-K–8 schools instills pride in their accomplishments and reinforces their leadership in helping children develop a lifelong love of learning.

### **Number of Honorees**

The selected principals for the 2022 NDP Program will include 38 elementary and middle-level public school principals from across the country, two from the U.S. Department of State American Overseas Schools, and one from the U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity, for a total of 41 honorees.

### **How Honorees are Chosen**

Public school elementary and middle-level principals are nominated by peers in their state; and the final selection for the NDP is then made by NAESP state affiliates. Honorees from the Department of State and the Department of Defense are selected by special committees.

### **Selection Criteria**

Criteria established by the NAESP Board of Directors requires that the individual is a practicing principal of a school that: (1) is clearly committed to excellence; (2) has programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students; (3) has firm ties to parents and the community. The principal must show evidence of outstanding contributions to the community and to the education profession; and (4) has been an active member of NAESP for at least three consecutive years at the time of nomination.

### **Location**

Program events and ceremonies take place in Washington, D.C. on October 6-7, 2022 at the Willard InterContinental Hotel, 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

### **About NAESP**

The National Association of Elementary School Principals, founded in 1921, is a professional organization serving around 20,000 elementary and middle school leaders nationwide. It operates through a network of affiliated associations in every U.S. state, the District of Columbia, Canada, and other countries worldwide.