



Educational Foundation
Lexington County School District One

For the twenty-first year, the Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation is sponsoring the Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award.

Mr. Bedenbaugh worked in Lexington County School District One for 36 years. He began as a seventh-grade mathematics teacher and principal. Before retiring in 1982, he served as an Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Administration and Federal Entitlement Programs. He remained active in serving Lexington District One in many ways until his passing on November 29, 2018.

The Educational Foundation will present the 2026 Administrator of the Year Award in Mr. Bedenbaugh's memory in May at the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees meeting. The award will be given to a deserving administrator who is presently employed with Lexington District One who best exemplifies the criteria established for the award, which describes an outstanding leader and administrator.

Lexington District One permanent employees can make nominations. Eligible persons who can be nominated include Senior Leadership Team members, Principals, Assistant Principals, Directors, and District Coordinators.

Nomination packets must include a written narrative explaining why the individual has met the established Bedenbaugh Award criteria. In addition, nomination packets typically include letters, memos, and pictures from students, peers, and/or other faculty members that validate the nomination. The nomination packet can be in the form of a scrapbook or bound booklet.

This very prestigious award given by the Lexington One Educational Foundation is an annual one that is cherished by the award winners and all in Lexington County School District One. Questions regarding nominations should be directed to Educational Foundation Board Chair Bridget Winston (bridgetwinston@gmail.com). Foundation leaders look forward to announcing this year's Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award in May.

About Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation:

Established in 1994 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, the Lexington One Educational Foundation is a source of growth and support for Lexington County School District One. Our mission is to support the district's educational programs and enrich the quality of life in our community by raising and managing funds. Annually, the Foundation works to build partnerships with individuals and corporations in order to benefit our students, teachers, and schools. We plant seeds in our district that bloom into amazing educational opportunities for our students! To learn more about our mission and how to give, visit: www.Lex1EdFound.org.



Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year AWARD CRITERIA

(As submitted by Joseph M. Bedenbaugh)

1. Is comfortable in interacting with children and parents of varying races, abilities, and environmental circumstances.
2. Possesses a high level of verbal ability in both oral and written communication.
3. Consistently respects and demonstrates superior organizational skills and anticipatory instincts.
4. Recognizes, respects, and adheres to strict allegiance to the organizational chain of command.
5. Asserts leadership in developing a disciplined, structured environment in which children and teachers are to function.
6. As a general administrative approach, systematically studies all available data and pertinent facts in dealing with tough and challenging situations.
7. Believes that the best public relations tool is to do a good job educationally.
8. Operates on the thesis that the welfare of children is paramount in his/her role and that of whom he/she supervises.
9. Creates office environment where secretarial assistants are polite.
10. Possesses the soundness of judgment to know "when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em."
11. Gives praise to co-workers when praise is due but is willing to intervene and act decisively when shoddiness appears.
12. Is available and approachable but not a wimp.
13. Is a keen student of human behavior.
14. Acts and reacts effectively in tough situations, so as to resolve the vast majority of such encounters at the school building level.
15. Has the type of influence that can carry over to School Bond Referenda, Re-drawing of School Attendance Lines and other challenging endeavors.
16. Consistently encourages and supports personnel who work under his/her supervision.
17. Is able to improvise and "make do" when such qualities are needed and called for.
18. Genuinely loves children and views their educational development as his/her primary goal.
19. Exerts leadership in utilizing the "tried and true" in instructional approaches, disciplinary remedies and the like, but is capable of thinking "outside the box" when the occasion requires it.
20. Is, in all circumstances, a team player when working with other principals, assistant principals, directors, coordinators, assistant superintendents and the superintendent.
21. As a public stance, supports policies, regulations, and actions of the district.
22. Is sufficiently streetwise as not to be shocked or overwhelmed by current student misconduct.
23. Operates in interpersonal relationships in such a manner as to create a minimal number of alienated individuals.