

News Alert

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Contact: Jennifer Rogers; 517.327.5908; jrogers@masb.org
Sarah Ford; 517.327.5907; sford@masb.org
Newsroom, www.masb.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bronson Community Schools takes home Education Excellence Award

The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) and SET SEG School Insurance Specialists are proud to announce the recipients of the 2011 Education Excellence award. The winning programs represent 16 counties across the state, including one school district from **Branch County**. In the face of complex education challenges and limited resources, **Bronson Community Schools** kept the focus on student achievement to create an innovative solution to address their needs.

“This year’s Education Excellence winners demonstrate that excellence is all around us in our public schools. They have developed a unique solution to address their educational challenges and have positively impacted student achievement,” said Kathy Hayes, MASB executive director. “It’s a great reminder that even in the face of great challenges our public schools are stepping up to get the job done.”

The Education Excellence awards honor the top three local school district programs in each of eight categories and the top three intermediate school district programs for a total of 27 honorees. Entries are judged by an independent panel of state education specialists. Each school or district will receive a trophy and a metal street sign proclaiming it an “Education Excellence Winner.” Winners will move on to round two judging to determine “Michigan’s Best” and the recipients of a cash prize to help further the goals of the programs.

The programs will be honored Tuesday, May 17 at a luncheon hosted by MASB and SET SEG School Insurance Specialists, the exclusive sponsor of the awards. The luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at the Eagle Eye Golf Club in Bath. School board members, administrators, teachers and other school personnel will be on hand to celebrate this achievement. All media are welcome to attend, but please check in at the registration desk.

See page two for a description of the winning program.

Category: Community Relations
Superstar Family Nights
Anderson Elementary
Bronson Community Schools
Program Coordinator: Dixie Koenemann, (517) 369-3235

Parents at Anderson Elementary School lacked a level of comfort in being involved with the school, and they indicated a need for strategies to provide support for their children's academic achievement. A significant number of Spanish-speaking families were identified as being particularly in need. Anderson Superstar Family Nights strive to meet that need by bringing families together to communicate, have fun and learn together. Parents and students come together for hands-on activities and are provided materials to continue the activities at home. When the program was originally focused on just parents, only about 5 percent of students were represented. When the focus changed to include and engage families, make activities more relevant and provide an interpreter, participation rates increased from 24 to 49 percent of families. Student achievement and student attitudes benefit through parent involvement in student learning.

MASB provides quality educational leadership services to all Michigan boards of education, and advocates for student achievement and public education. For a complete list of award winners, please visit www.masb.org and click on "Awards and Recognition."

The Education Excellence Awards are made possible through the generous sponsorship of SET SEG School Insurance Specialists.

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