District Union/Organization Statements January 13, 2021 Board Meeting

Good Evening. I am Anita Johnson, President of the Mt. Diablo Education Association.

We are in the middle of one of the most challenging academic years of all time. The good news is that people are pulling together, helping each other, and sharing what they have.

Now more than ever, we need to celebrate the hard work that we are all doing.

Please think about all of the individuals you know in our community who are getting tremendous results, putting forth extraordinary effort, and being incredibly creative to serve our students. Pick a few of these individuals and nominate them for an Academy Award. You can find a link to the nomination form on our website.

From the nomination forms we receive, we will pick individuals to honor with awards. The purpose of the Awards is the honor everyone in the community by selecting examples of the great work that everyone is doing.

There are many different awards, some for teachers, and others for classified staff, administrators, volunteers, and other members of the community.

We have added a new award this year: the Social Justice Award. This award will honor an individual or a team in our community who has worked to promote social justice, racial justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion in our schools. Nominees can be either teachers or other members of the community.

Our award ceremony will be virtual again this year and will be fun and exciting. Please plan on joining in on Thursday, May 6th at 5 PM.

Most importantly, start thinking now about who you want to nominate and complete the nomination form. Nominations are due Friday, February 26th.

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