

January 2021 **(Please read at FEBRUARY & or March stated meeting!)**

To: All Iowa Masonic Lodge Secretaries and Lodges

From: The Grand Lodge of Iowa's Public School Support Committee

RE: 2021 Iowa Masonic "Teacher of the Year" Award

Please Read This Letter in Lodge And Act Upon It

It is that time of the year when Iowa Masons honor our public school teachers and show them the support that they deserve. In 2020, we received a large number of applications representing an outstanding group of educators, and we encourage all Iowa lodges to recommend a teacher in your local area to apply for this honor. Lodges that did not submit an application last year are especially encouraged to nominate an educator this year. It is an opportunity for your lodge to spread the wonderful message that we Masons do appreciate our public school teachers.

Every school district has many qualified candidates. Each lodge is encouraged to think of an outstanding teacher in their community and have that person fill out the enclosed application and submit it to the Committee. If no members of your lodge are acquainted with the teachers, stop by your local school and visit with the principal. I am sure that he or she will give you the name of a worthwhile and deserving candidate for the 2020 Iowa Masonic Teacher of the Year Award!

It is also recommended that an administrator, Teacher's Association, or staff member work with the lodge in nominating an outstanding teacher who exhibits the standards of:

1. Conduct
2. Courtesy
3. Responsibility
4. Honesty
5. Cheerfulness
6. Kindness

7. Consideration of Others
8. Community Involvement
9. Honors and Awards Received

Once the candidate has been selected by the Local Lodge, the nominee should be honored by:

1. Placing the name, a picture, and story in the local paper.
2. Sponsoring a special lodge function including a meal to honor your candidate.
3. Sending a letter to the principal explaining the program and congratulating the school and teacher.
4. Request that the teacher complete the enclosed **Iowa Masonic Teacher of the Year** form.
5. Send the completed nomination application to:
John A. Jack Cook, Chairman
Iowa Public School Support Committee
1301 S Cleveland Street
Mount Ayr, Iowa 50854-2173

It is to the lodge's advantage to start the process immediately. The teacher honored as the 2021 Iowa Masonic Teacher of the Year will be recognized at the 177th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa at Sioux City in September. **Lodges are encouraged to recognize their nominees at a special event in their communities.** The recipient of the 2018 Teacher of the Year Award will receive a monetary award and commemorative plaque.

Fraternally,

PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE
John A. Jack Cook, Chairman

All lodges are encouraged to honor an outstanding teacher in their communities.

Applications are due **May 1, 2021.**

2021 IOWA MASONIC TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by the Public School Support Committee
Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 279
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-0279

IOWA MASONIC TEACHER OF THE YEAR APPLICATION FORM

Congratulations! You have been nominated for the **Iowa Masonic Teacher of the Year** award. To be eligible, you must answer all of the following questions to the best of your ability and send the completed form to:

John A. Jack Cook, Chairman
Iowa Public School Support Committee
1301 S Cleveland Street
Mount Ayr, IA 50854-2173

Please include a letter of recommendation from your IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR along with the application by **May 1, 2021 to be eligible for this award.**

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Name of School where currently teaching: _____

Address of School: _____

Number of years at this school: _____

Other schools taught and number of years at each: _____

Name and address of local newspaper: _____

Name of Immediate Supervisor: _____

List all the courses you are currently teaching: _____

List Community Services and projects you have been responsible for or directly involved with:

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List the honors you have received (professional or civic) or any other awards the selection committee should be made aware of: _____

What do you believe are the strengths of public school education in Iowa? (A separate sheet of paper may be utilized)

From which Masonic lodge were you nominated? _____

Signature of Nominee: _____ Date: _____
