

MORRIS COUNTY

School Boards Association



🏆 2027 Irene M. LeFebvre Excellence in Boardsmanship Award 🏆

Morris County School Boards Association

DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2027

About the Award

The **Irene M. LeFebvre Excellence in Boardsmanship Award**, established in 2022, recognizes a current school board member in Morris County who demonstrates **exceptional leadership**, a strong commitment to **responsible and effective school governance**, and dedicated service to the children of their community.

This award is named in tribute to **Irene M. LeFebvre**, former president of both the Morris County School Boards Association (MCSBA) and the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA). It reflects the values she championed throughout her distinguished career: **integrity, lifelong learning, leadership, and a steadfast focus on student success.**

Past Award Recipients

2026 -	2026 -	2025 -	2024 -	2023 -	2022 -
Diane Morris	Jennifer Darling	Katie Bartnick	Leo Coakley	Michael Bertram	Dr. Karen Cortellino
Mine Hill Township	Boonton Town	Mine Hill Township	Roxbury Township	Morris Hills Regional	Montville Township

📝 2027 Nomination Criteria

To be eligible for consideration, nominees **must** satisfy the following criteria:

- **Be a current member** of a board of education in Morris County.
- **Have at least six years of service** as a school board member.
- Be recognized by the NJSBA Board Member Academy as a **Certified Board Member**.
([CLICK HERE](#) to see listing of all Morris County Certified Board Members)
- **Demonstrate a sustained commitment** to personal and professional development.
- **Consistently champion student achievement** in board decision-making.
- **Be nominated via a formal resolution from their local Board of Education.** (This step requires an official board vote and should be initiated early.) **Note:** Previous nominees do not need to submit a new resolution

Nomination and Selection Process

Each Morris County Board of Education may nominate one board member for the 2027 award. An independent review committee—composed of school board members from outside the county—will evaluate all nominees and select the individual who best reflects Irene's enduring legacy of leadership and service.

Recognition and Announcement

All 2027 nominees will be recognized, and the 2027 award winner will be announced at the Morris County School Boards Association Spring County Meeting on **Wednesday, May 5, 2027.**

📌 KEY DEADLINE & SUBMISSION INFORMATION

DEADLINE: Thursday, April 1, 2027 | **APPLICATION LINK:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScIc8NFGBvDTIDz1dljXifjXIKdwQgHO-PlhWtm89G_0eKGWg/viewform

REQUIRED DOCUMENT: The formal **Resolution from the local Board of Education** must be submitted.

FOR QUESTIONS: Contact Robert Acerra, NJSBA County Activities Coordinator for Morris County, at racerra@njsba.org.

Thank you for all you do for the children of your district and Morris County. We encourage every Board to submit a nomination and look forward to recognizing your nominee in May!

Lisa A. Mezik
Morris County School Boards Association President



Nomination Resolution Template

The information below is provided simply as a guide as the Board of Education is drafting its resolution:

RESOLUTION TITLE: Nomination of **[Nominee's Name]** for the Morris County School Boards Association **2027 Irene M. LeFebvre Excellence in Boardsmanship Award**.

WHEREAS, [Nominee's Name], a resident of **[Township/Municipality]**, in the County of Morris, has served a total of **[Number]** years on the **[District Name]** Board of Education, demonstrating a sustained commitment to effective school governance; and

WHEREAS, [Nominee's Name] has made noteworthy and measurable contributions to the education of students, with a continual focus on improving student achievement for all students in the district through **[State 1-2 specific examples of contributions or focus areas]**; and

WHEREAS, [Nominee's Name] has consistently demonstrated exemplary leadership on the Board of Education and within the community by **[State 1-2 specific examples of leadership roles or initiatives]**; and

WHEREAS, [Nominee's Name] has exhibited active and effective involvement in school governance at the local level, including **[List 1-2 specific examples: e.g., committee chair, policy review, strategic planning]**, and has shown a commitment to collaborative teamwork; and

WHEREAS, [Nominee's Name] has pursued ongoing personal and professional development, maintaining status as a **Certified Board Member** by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), and **[State 1 specific example of recent training or professional growth]**; and

WHEREAS, the [District Name] District Board of Education wishes to formally recognize **[Nominee's Name]** for their dedicated service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the students of our district and community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **[District Name] District Board of Education** does hereby express its sincere appreciation and gratitude to **[Nominee's Name]** for their distinguished service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the **[District Name] District Board of Education Secretary** is hereby authorized and directed to submit this Nomination Resolution, along with all required application materials, to the Morris County School Boards Association for consideration of **[Nominee's Name]** for the **2026 Irene M. LeFebvre Excellence in Boardsmanship Award**.

Adopted: [Date of Board Meeting]

Board Secretary: [Signature of Board Secretary]