Help Us Recognize Excellence: Nominate a Deserving Member for the 2026 NCPSMA “Of the Year” Awards

Each year, NCPSMA honors outstanding individuals who represent the best of our profession—those who lead with integrity, support their colleagues, and contribute to the advancement of public school maintenance across North Carolina.

Now is the time to nominate someone for one of our most meaningful honors: the NCPSMA “Of the Year” Awards.

Do you know someone who:

- Shows exceptional leadership?
- Sets a positive example?
- Supports and uplifts others?
- Tackles challenges with strength and optimism?
- Embraces change and growth?
- Contributes meaningfully to NCPSMA?

If someone immediately comes to mind, don’t wait—nominate them!

2026 Award Categories and Qualifications:

Superintendent of the Year

Who is eligible:

- Superintendents or Associate/Assistant Superintendents who are responsible for maintenance operations.
- Must be a current member of NCPSMA.
- Must be nominated by an active NCPSMA member from the same district.

Required nomination materials:

- A signed letter of nomination from an active member.
- A photo of the nominee (on a separate page).
- A narrative biographical sketch (no more than two pages) outlining the nominee’s contributions to NCPSMA and professional achievements.

Maintenance Director of the Year

Who is eligible:

- The direct head of a school maintenance department.
- Must currently work in a North Carolina educational system.
- Must have been an active NCPSMA member for the last five (5) consecutive years.
- Cannot be the current NCPSMA State President.
- Must be nominated by an active NCPSMA member from the same district.

Required nomination materials:

- A signed letter of nomination from an active member.
- A photo of the nominee (on a separate page).
- A narrative biographical sketch (no more than two pages) outlining the nominee's contributions to NCPSMA and professional achievements.

Maintenance Employee of the Year

Who is eligible:

- Any maintenance staff member who is not the director.
- Must currently work in a North Carolina educational system.
- Must have been an active NCPSMA member for the last five (5) consecutive years.
- Cannot be the current NCPSMA State President.
- Must be nominated by an active NCPSMA member from the same district.

Required nomination materials:

- A signed letter of nomination from an active member.
- A photo of the nominee (on a separate page).
- A narrative biographical sketch (no more than two pages) outlining the nominee's contributions to NCPSMA and professional achievements.

Important Notes:

- Only one nominee per category per LEA is allowed. If multiple nominations in the same category are received from the same LEA, all nominees in that category will be disqualified (as per NCPSMA Advisory Council ruling, May 2016).
- Nominations must be submitted by Monday, August 31, 2026.

Submit nominations to:

Kristie Payne
NCPSMA OTY Awards Committee
224 Mulberry Street
Clyde, NC 28721
or email: office@ncpsma.org

These awards are generously sponsored each year by Saffelle, Inc., a company that has supported NCPSMA for decades. Milt and the late Jean Saffelle built a legacy of appreciation for school maintenance professionals—a legacy that continues today through their children, Mark, Chris, and Jeanine.

Let's keep that tradition alive. Take a few minutes to recognize a colleague who makes a difference every day.