



DR. DAN AWARD 2026

Honoring Significant Contributions to Education in Arkansas



The Dr. Daniel L. Pilkinton Award for Outstanding Service to Public Education

Dr. Daniel L. (Dr. Dan) Pilkinton, who passed away in 2009, was renowned across the state for his lifelong service to public education. He was closely linked to the Arkansas School Boards Association since its inception and was the association's first executive secretary. After his retirement, Dr. Dan served ASBA in many ways, particularly in the areas of state governmental affairs and legislation. In 1993, the ASBA Board of Directors established the annual Dr. Daniel L. Pilkinton Award in his honor, recognizing his outstanding contributions to public education in Arkansas.

Nomination criteria:

- Nominee should have made a significant contribution to public education in Arkansas through meritorious service in roles such as **school board member, administrator, teacher, school attorney, other school employee, legislator, elected official, or school patron.**
- Nomination may relate to a singular experience in one year or cumulative experiences over a period of years. Nominations may be valid for up to three years after submission.
- Nominations may be made by Arkansas school boards that are ASBA members, the superintendent of an ASBA-member district, or by individual school board members.

Nomination Submission Information:

- Nominations should be submitted electronically at the following link: <https://bit.ly/drdan26>
- The nomination form should be completed to the extent possible, including the name of the nominee, the contributions upon which the nomination is based, and any supporting data relative to the nominee and his/her qualifications for the award.
- The nomination deadline is **October 15.**

The "Dr. Dan Award" will be presented during the Awards Ceremony at the 2026 ASBA Annual Conference on **Thursday, December 10, 2026.**

Questions? Contact Angela Ellis at aellis@arsba.org.