

NEWS RELEASE:

At this year's annual conference in Baton Rouge, LA on February 26, 2019, one of the highlights of each annual NSPMA Conference is the announcement of the National School Plant Manager of the Year award recipient.

We are honored to announce that the winner of the 2019 National School Plant Manager of the Year award is Keith S. Webb, Executive Director – Plant Services for Newport News Public Schools, Virginia. Mr. Webb is in his 11th year of his current position with a total of 27 years in school facilities management. Mr. Webb exemplifies every trait desired within a facilities director as demonstrated daily by his innovative and creative skill sets. In his 27 years of service Mr. Webb has continued to demonstrate through his leadership how to mold his staff, by leading by example, and insisting on critical thinking, safety beyond measure and a desire for perfection.

Keith not only has been recognized for his professionalism in the school plant management field by his many accomplishments with the receipt of many local, state and national awards; but also by his fellow academic administrators. Several provided testimony of Mr. Webb's contributions and passion for providing students with safest and most conducive learning environments. To the point, that when it comes to the needs of the students; "he gets it". Whether it is routine maintenance, new construction, or renovations, Keith understands that the needs of students and the instructional programs are priority number one.

Through his years from 2007 to present, Mr. Webb has taken on many responsible positions as a member to the Virginia Chapter of the Council of Educational Facility Planners International from treasurer to President. He has also been instrumental in the Association for Learning Environment (A4LE) promoting STEM competition and mentoring of future college architecture students via College Design Competition.

Mr. Webb has been a conference presenter, panelist and judge with several state and national school plant organizations. In addition, Keith has been a webinar planner and had an article, "Earn and Learn- Creating a State-sanctioned Training Program that Develops Skilled Workers and Benefits the Entire Industry" in the March/April 2016 issue of the *Facility Cleaning Decisions* magazine.

Mr. Webb through his tireless actions and leadership in teamwork is responsible for the Newport News Public Schools being recognized for the Virginia Go Green Award for environmental sustainability starting in 2010 – 2012 obtaining the Silver Level, 2013-2016 Gold Level and continued to make improvements until they reached the Platinum level in 2017-2018. In 2011, Mr. Webb was the recipient of the NSPMA's Platinum Level Facility Masters Award, 2012 was the recipient of the APPA Educational Facilities Professional credential, 2013 received the Grand Award by AS&U magazine for Best Green Cleaning

Practices in K-12 divisions nationally, and 2015 was one of the top five recipients of the Cleaning Decisions Magazine Manager of Distinctions.

In total, Mr. Webb is the epitome of what any Plant Manager should be!

On behalf of the Scholarship and Awards Committee, we want to thank all of the qualified candidates for this year's award. We wish them much success in their future.

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