

ORANGE-ULSTER BOCES

Richard H. Aderson

"MAKE A DIFFERENCE"
2010 AWARD

Dear Colleague:

The Richard H. Aderson "Make A Difference" Award is a living memorial to Richard H. Aderson, former Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services and Personnel, in the Valley Central School District. Richard was not only a great person and an outstanding administrator, but he was also a prominent voice for children, all children, and their educational needs.

Consistently throughout the various positions he held, from Teacher to Principal to Assistant Superintendent, he inspired others to believe in themselves and to reach their fullest potential. His work with others was typically marked with his special personal touch. His standards for self and others were high, but included a sense of reality. He unquestionably stood tall for his ideals. Many looked to him as a mentor, many as a friend.

Because we do not want to forget the significance of Richard Aderson's contributions, we draw your attention to our version of the following much quoted and very fitting starfish story:

Once upon a time, a woman observed a large man moving oddly along an ocean shore. At first, it was thought he was dancing, but as the observer moved closer, she saw that he was throwing starfish back into the sea. "What are you doing?" she asked.

The "dancing" man replied, "The tide is low, and unless I put these starfish back into the water they will die."

"There are millions of miles of beach and thousands of starfish," she said. "You can't possibly make a difference." With that, the "dancing" man leaned forward, picked up another starfish and threw it into the ocean. "It makes a difference for that one," he said.



We invite you to help keep Richard's memory alive by highlighting and celebrating the act of "making a difference" by recognizing the accomplishments of an outstanding educator in our BOCES region.

If you know of any individual who is worthy of such a nomination, please be sure to complete the attached nomination form and submit it to the Office of Professional Development Services, at Orange-Ulster BOCES. Thank you.

RICHARD H. ADERSON MEMORIAL AWARD COMMITTEE

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CRITERIA FOR AWARD

The following criteria were adopted by the Richard H. Aderson Memorial Award Committee in June 1998 for selection of the "Make A Difference" Award recipient:

1. *The award recipient must have demonstrated a genuine contribution to the field of education, and a humanistic concern for faculty, students, and all persons in education.*
2. *The award recipient must have a strong record of the achievement of excellence in educational related service to children.*
3. *The award recipient must be a "living" example of commitment to "Making A Difference" in children's lives.*



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NOMINATION FORM

NOMINEE: _____ DISTRICT: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____ POSITION: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

Using the selection criteria as a guide, please indicate your rationale for this nomination:
(You may use additional paper, as needed.)

NAME OF NOMINATOR: _____ POSITION/ROLE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

Return to: Dr. Mary Ann Wilson
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Orange-Ulster BOCES
53 Gibson Road
Goshen, New York 10924
Phone: 291-0100, Ext. 10124
Fax: 291-0118

All nominations must be submitted by **November 15, 2010**.
Please attach all supporting documentation.
Awards will be announced in **January 2011**.