



PENNSYLVANIA PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION

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Dr. Matt Miller Named Pennsylvania's 2025 National Distinguished Principal

(ENOLA, PA) — Matt Miller, Ed.D., principal of Roundtown Elementary School (K-3) in the Central York School District, has been named **Pennsylvania's 2025 National Distinguished Principal (NDP) by the Pennsylvania Principals Association**. As a state winner in the National Association of Elementary School Principals' (NAESP) National Distinguished Principal (NDP) Program, Dr. Miller will be recognized by NAESP and the PA Principals Association at special award ceremonies later this year.

An educator for 27 years and an administrator for 20 years, Dr. Miller has worked in the Central York School District for his entire education career. He has been in his current role as principal of Roundtown Elementary School (K-3), serving approximately 465-635 learners, since August 2009. Previously, he was the assistant principal at Hayshire Elementary School (K-3) from 2006-2009; assistant to the elementary principals from 2005-2006; and a second-grade teacher at Roundtown Elementary School from 1998-2005.

"We congratulate Dr. Matt Miller, an exceptional principal and leader, on being selected as Pennsylvania's 2025 National Distinguished Principal. Through his leadership, Matt has shown a strong commitment to collaboration, shared leadership and teamwork. His outstanding leadership skills, dedication as a lead learner and unwavering commitment to the Central York students, staff and community make him a truly distinguished principal. He serves as an inspiring example for principals and school leaders across the commonwealth," said Dr. Eric Eshbach, executive director, PA Principals Association.

"As a principal and educator at the same school and school district for nearly 30 years, I hope my biggest legacy would be the district, school, family and community relationships I have built and sustained throughout my career. I cherish these relationships and will take them with me forever. Seeing former students bring me their own five-year-olds to kindergarten registration to begin the learning cycle all over again continues to bring me a level of satisfaction that fills my heart," Dr. Miller shared.

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Robert Palazzo, NDP Selection Committee chair and East II Elementary State Director for the PA Principals Association, shared, “Dr. Miller embodies all of the traits that make a great principal. Matt's personality is infectious and his fun, energetic and dedicated approach to school leadership has created a school community where teachers feel valued, and student success is celebrated. It is an honor to recognize his hard work and long-standing dedication to the community of Roundtown Elementary and the Central York School District by selecting him as the recipient of this year's award.”

During Dr. Miller's 16-year tenure at Roundtown, he was instrumental in promoting and maintaining a healthy school environment for ALL students. He has led the charge in his school to implement and adhere to the principles of the *Responsive Classroom Philosophy*. He shared, “This philosophy suggests that students' emotional and social learning is as important as the academic learning that occurs in schools. I have provided at least some level of professional development in this arena for each of my 16 years as principal.” In addition, Dr. Miller has collaborated with other district leaders to implement additional counseling and outside resources to assist students' emotional and physical well-being.

“I can think of no one more deserving of this honor than Dr. Miller,” Dr. Peter Aiken, superintendent of Central York School District, said. “Dr. Miller may very well be one of the best administrators I have ever worked with. He is the consummate professional ... and he has a deep-seated passion to see ALL kids thrive and succeed. We are so fortunate Dr. Miller is on our team—he makes all of us Proud to be a Panther!”

According to Dr. Miller, he still feels enormous pride when thinking about a student whom he helped develop and initiate the concept of a “buddy bench” on their school playground, which turned into an international movement with more than 30,000 benches in all 50 states and in more than 20 countries. Most recently, he was proud to represent his school and district by traveling to Liberia, Africa, in 2024 as a Liberia Project Ambassador to distribute materials, clothing and school supplies to the public schools and children. One of the most significant elements of this mission trip was helping to provide professional development opportunities and training for principals and teachers. Dr. Miller shared his experiences abroad with his school community, family and friends through blog updates.

In addition to the Pennsylvania Principals Association and NAESP, Dr. Miller holds memberships in the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and Phi Delta Kappa. An active member of his community, he served on the Board of Directors for the Central York Credit Union, Little Theater Community Theater and Central York Communities That Care (CTC). In 2004, he received the Pennsylvania Keystone Technology Integrator Award, and in 2008 and 2013, he was honored with the Central York CTC Spirit of Youth Award.

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Dr. Miller said, “I am honored and humbled to receive this award. It is a tribute to all of those who have molded and helped shape my leadership as well as those educators who continually encourage me to reflect and be the best version of myself. I share this award with my outstanding and dedicated teachers and staff and fellow colleagues whom I learn from every day!”

Dr. Miller earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Kindergarten Education from The Pennsylvania State University (Main Campus, State College); a Master of Education in Teaching and Curriculum from The Pennsylvania State University (York); and his Principal Certification from The Pennsylvania State University (Harrisburg). He received a Doctor of Education and his Superintendent’s Letter of Eligibility from Immaculata University.

Dr. Miller attributes much of his success to his two greatest friends, supporters and champions—his mom and dad. Throughout his entire life and educational career, they have both been there every step of the way to listen, laugh with and encourage him to lead with his heart. Both of Dr. Miller's parents were diagnosed with cancer in 2024 and subsequently battled through surgery and treatments and are doing well. This is an award that he shares with his mom and dad, looking toward a happier and healthier 2025!

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Matt Miller, Ed.D.

About the [PA Principals Association](#): The PA Principals Association membership of approximately 3,500 is composed of elementary, middle level and secondary school principals, assistant principals and other educational leaders and is affiliated with the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

The Mission of the Pennsylvania Principals Association: *To ensure a quality education for every child by comprehensively supporting the educational leaders of our schools.*

For more information about the **Central York School District**, visit: <https://www.cysd.k12.pa.us>