

# Celebrating the Innovative Spirit of School Business Officials

Every day, school business professionals must find creative solutions to challenging problems—and never more so than today, in a climate of low resources and high accountability.

To salute creativity and innovation in the profession, ASBO International and Virco, Inc., honor four school business officials every year with the Pinnacle Awards. Since 1993, 70 school business officials have been recognized for their outstanding work. From identifying transportation providers to managing facilities

more effectively to promoting professional development, this year’s recipients have all made a positive impact on those around them.

### Our Partner

ASBO thanks Virco Inc., America’s leading furniture and equipment manufacturer and supplier for K-12 schools, providing thousands of customers with popular furniture items, for supporting this program since its inception. Virco’s generous support awards \$5,000, school furniture valued at \$5,000 for their school dis-

trict, and a crystal Pinnacle Award to the Pinnacle of Excellence Award recipients. Pinnacle of Achievement Award recipients receive a check for \$1,000 and a crystal Pinnacle Award.

### Celebrate Your Award-Winning Ideas

Share your outstanding practices, or nominate an innovative colleague, by applying for the Pinnacle Award before May 1, 2010. Visit [www.asbointl.org](http://www.asbointl.org) for details. Showcase the unique solutions that worked for you and your school district!

## Congratulations to the 2009 Pinnacle Award Recipients

### PINNACLE OF EXCELLENCE



**Larry Williams**

Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Construction  
Lewisville Independent School District  
Lewisville, TX

*Better Buildings Begin Here—Achieving Customer Service Through Innovative Facilities Initiatives*

The Lewisville ISD Facility Services Department has reached a new level of excellence

thanks to a number of initiatives launched under the leadership of Larry Williams. For example, the department initiated a “classroom blitz” project that involves an inspection of each of the district’s 4,000 classrooms every 60 days. The initial blitz took place at the end of a school year and identified more than 3,100 issues, which were resolved before school began again in the fall. In addition, indoor air quality remediation costs have dropped from \$2 million to less than \$200,000.

Commenting on his selection as a Pinnacle of Excellence award winner, Williams says “The entire [Pinnacle Award] process is beneficial as it calls for an examination of current business practices, and district goals, to make sure the two are in harmony, and fosters a mindset of how we can improve what we do.”

### PINNACLE OF ACHIEVEMENT



**Patrick Collins**

Director of Business Operations  
Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School  
Marlborough, MA  
*School Business Administrator Apprenticeship/Internship Program*

Balancing work, home, and professional development activities can be difficult for busy school business administrators. Recognizing that it’s a juggling act—and knowing

how important it is for SBAs to continue their education, Patrick Collins launched an apprenticeship/internship program to help school business officials in Massachusetts complete their licensing requirements. A survey taken prior to this project's implementation found that only about 54% of school business officials in Massachusetts had a license. Today, almost 71% of the school business officials in Massachusetts are licensed.

**PINNACLE OF ACHIEVEMENT**



**Nita Mensia-Joseph**

Director of Operations  
Portsmouth Public Schools  
Norfolk, VA

*Applying Quality Principles to Reduce Accidents and Workman's Compensation Costs for Operations*

Risk management is a key component of effective school business management. Nita Mensia-Joseph spearheaded implementation of a risk management program that has resulted in 65% fewer loss-time accidents in Portsmouth Public Schools.

Costs for workers' compensation claims have decreased by 43% and non-loss-time accidents have decreased by 37%.

**PINNACLE OF ACHIEVEMENT**



**Joel Sloggett**

Chief Administrative Officer  
Student Transportation Services  
of Central Ontario  
Peterborough, Ontario, Canada  
*Transportation Service Provider  
Performance Monitoring:  
An Encompassing Approach to  
Ensuring Accountability*

Safety and efficiency are key to an effective school transportation system. Joel Sloggett's award-winning project rates transportation service companies in terms of seven key categories: contract compliance; operator reviews; DMV inspections; routine audits; on-time performance; customer interaction; and student bus evacuation/safety training. During the two years of the monitoring system's use, average ratings for service providers have risen from 81% to 85%.

1910  
2010  
100 years  
Celebrate History  
ASBO International Turns  
2010 Annual Meeting and Exhibits  
September 24-27  
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

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