

Guidelines for the MSBA Business Friend of Education Award

PURPOSE:

To recognize no more than two companies that have made significant contributions to public education. The intent is to present this award annually to both a large corporation and a small local business.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

Any for-profit company or non-profit organization located in the State of Maine may be nominated by any MSBA-member Board.

Examples of outstanding service include, but are not limited to:

1. In-school volunteer time;
2. Financial support for special projects; or
3. Donation of materials or equipment to schools.

PROCEDURE:

Written notifications must be received at MSMA on or before September 10, 2025. Each nomination must be signed by the local School Board Chair. It will be the responsibility of the local Board Chair or their designee to contact the nominee and confirm their willingness to receive the nomination and award.

FINAL SELECTION:

MSBA Board of Directors. (In any given year, these awards may not be presented.)

PRESENTATION:

Announcement of the recipient(s) of the MSBA Business Friend of Education Award will be made at this year's MSMA Fall Conference.

Nomination Form **for the** **MSBA Business Friend of Education Award**

Name of Business Nominated: Leavitt Property Services & Consulting

Contact Person: Jennifer Garrett, School Board Chair

Address: St. George MSU, PO Box 153, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860

Telephone: 207.691.3746

Please state your reasons for nominating this business. Provide any details which will assist the MSBA Board of Directors in making their selection. (Attach additional sheet if necessary.)

Please see attached.

Local School Board submitting nomination: St. George Municipal School Unit

Signature of Board Chair:  Date: 9/8/2025

Please return this nomination form (email preferred) on or before September 10, 2025, to:

MSBA President
c/o Maine School Management Association
49 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330
Email: msma@msmaweb.com
Fax: (207) 626-2968

St. George Municipal School Unit
Excellence. Community. Engagement.



To Whom It May Concern,

Chris and Tracy Leavitt are St. George residents, parents, and business owners. They own and operate a small construction and caretaking business called Leavitt Property Services & Consulting. For three years, they've supported our vision to develop the nation's first PreK-12 Career & Technical Education (CTE) program and construct a CTE/Makerspace building. Along with financially supporting the project as a business sponsor, Chris served on committees including the CTE Building Committee where his expertise as a contractor informed the location, design, and construction of the new building. He worked closely with our architect and advised us as we selected and worked with a general contractor. He also participated in numerous outreach and fundraising efforts, appearing on News Center with Don Carrigan, providing quotes for appeals, and even cooking on a grill during the grand opening of the new building.

For the past three years, Chris and Tracy have worked with our Kindergarten and 1st grade teachers and students to integrate CTE into the curriculum and show that students as young as five benefit from CTE learning opportunities. Chris and Tracy helped Kindergarteners with a snowman project where students measured 2x4s and cut them with saws. With Chris and Tracy's guidance, 1st graders hammered together wooden birdhouses, tool boxes, and trucks. Chris and Tracy often donated the materials for these projects and refused to be reimbursed.

The success of the CTE/Makerspace Project is the result of the vision, hard work, generosity, and heart of our school and community. Chris and Tracy were at the center of this work from the very beginning and showed the nation that students of all ages thrive with hands-on/minds-on learning.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Garrett
St. George MSU School Board Chair
j.garrett@stgeorgemsu.org
207.372.6312

Mike Felton
GRACE Innovation Center, Executive Dir.
St. George MSU
m.felton@stgeorgemsu.org
207.542.6394



Chris & Tracy Leavitt building snowmen with Kindergarteners.



Chris Leavitt being interviewed by Don Carrigan.



Chris Leavitt helping 1st graders build tool boxes.