



Alaska Workforce Investment Board
Career and Technical Education Instructor/Administrator of the Year Award
Recipient Biographies
February 22, 2012

Secondary Instructor of the Year - Gary Hall - Delta High School

Gary Hall was nominated for the Secondary Instructor of the Year Award by Curtis Dufendach, Vice President, Delta Industrial Services Inc.; Eric A Steward, President, Copper Current Electric; Jon Dufendach, President, Camp Water Industries LLC; Gary Vanous, Construction Site Manager, Bechtel National Inc., and Randy Cheap, Northern Director, Alaska Works Partnership Inc.

Mr. Hall has 33 years of experience in the construction trades industry and in 2002 he was the driving force in implementing a Construction Trades program at the Delta Junction High School. He understands that the time to develop good work habits is while a person is young. Gary's work ethic and professional attitude are core values he teaches to his students. The students that exit his classes have bedrock principles that are key for young adults starting in a very competitive market place.

Secondary Administrator of the Year - Rick Rios - Anchorage School District

Rick Rios was nominated for the Secondary Administrator of the Year award by Karen Perdue, CEO, Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association; Kathleen Castle, Executive Director, Alaska Construction Academies; Richard Cattanach, Board Member, Construction Education Foundation; Kathleen Barrows, Director Mission Services Providence Health & Services Alaska and John MacKinnon, Executive Director, Associated General Contractors.

Mr. Rios is involved with many local and statewide businesses through the work of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs with the Anchorage School District. He has shown great leadership and innovation in making CTE a reality and viable option for the students in Anchorage to explore career opportunities otherwise unavailable to them. Mr. Rios has initiated and lead in the development of career academies within the school district. He has formed the Constructions Academy and Health Career Academy. Due in large part to Rick's vision and dedication, two of

Alaska's major industries are finding more and better qualified individuals interested in entry level jobs in their industries.

Post -Secondary Instructor of the Year - John Plutt - Local 375 Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC)

John Plutt was nominated for the post secondary instructor of the year award by Michael Sexton, Executive Director, Mechanical Contractors of Fairbanks.

John Plutt has been an apprentice and journeyman instructor for Local 375 JATC for the last 13 years. John is very dedicated to providing a quality learning environment. He always takes the time to offer assistance to a struggling student or provide training for journeymen who cannot attend classes during the work week. He continually assists in providing apprentice outreach by attending career fairs and presenting the training program to high Schools and minority organizations.