MEMORANDUM NO. 2011-019

TO: District Superintendents
FROM: Cindy Hill
DATE: February 11, 2011
SUBJECT: ING Unsung Heroes – Rewarding Excellence in America’s Schools

PLEASE SHARE

“Do you or does someone you know have a creative, unique educational program that is helping students reach new heights? Or is there a program you’d like to implement, if only you had the proper funding?” These questions are from the attached ING Unsung Heroes information sheet and application.

The ING Unsung Heroes program funds innovative classroom projects that promote creative and unique educational programs.

Please take time to review this program and determine whether or not this would benefit a Wyoming school or individual classroom.

Thank you.

CH:kl

Attachment
ING Unsung Heroes® – Rewarding Excellence in America’s Schools

The ING Unsung Heroes program has helped more than a thousand K-12 educators and their schools fund innovative classroom projects through awards totaling more than $3 million.

Do you or does someone you know have a creative, unique educational program that is helping students reach new heights? Or is there a program you’d like to implement, if only you had the proper funding? Fill out the attached application and apply for an award today.

To Apply for a 2011 Award
To ensure impartiality, the 2011 program will again be managed by Scholarship America. Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2011. To apply, complete the attached application. Additional application forms may be obtained by contacting Scholarship America or your local ING representative. The attached application may also be photocopied. To download another application and to receive more detailed information about the award recipients and their winning projects, visit the ING Unsung Heroes awards program website at: www.ING.com/us/unsungheroes.

Who’s Eligible?
All K-12 education professionals, whether or not they are clients of ING, are eligible. Specifically, these individuals must be:
• Employed by an accredited K-12 public or private school located in the United States
• Full-time educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, or classified staff with effective projects that improve student learning

Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, gender, disability, or national origin.

Previous recipients of ING Unsung Heroes awards are not eligible to apply for another award.

Awards
All awards must be used to further the projects within the school or school system. Indirect costs or administrative fees should not be paid or withheld from the grant award. Each of the 100 finalists will receive an award of $2,000. Award checks are made payable jointly to the recipient and to his or her school. At least one award will be granted in each of the 50 United States, provided one or more qualified applications are received from each state. Of the 100 finalists, three will be selected for additional financial awards. First place will receive $25,000; second place will receive $10,000; and the third place winner will receive $5,000.

Selection of Finalists
Scholarship America will select 100 finalists. ING’s Educators Advisory Board, consisting of teachers and education administrators, will select recipients of the top three awards in the summer of 2011. By October 2011, applicants will be notified whether or not they have been selected to receive an award.

Obligations and Revisions
Recipients have no obligation to ING. They are, however, required to notify Scholarship America of any changes of address or other relevant information. ING reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this program and to make changes at any time, including termination of the program.

Application Deadline
Applications must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2011. Applicants are responsible for submitting all necessary information in the required format.

Completed applications may not be faxed. They must be mailed to:

ING Unsung Heroes Awards Program
c/o Scholarship America
One Scholarship Way
P.O. Box 297
St. Peter, MN 56082

Questions regarding the program should be addressed to Scholarship America:

Phone: (507) 931-1682 or (800) 537-4180
E-mail: ing@scholarshipamerica.org

2009 ING Unsung Heroes Top Winners:

1st Place
$27,000
Leslie Kaplan, Richard Kurtz, and Catherine Nolan
Newark Academy
Newark, New Jersey

2nd Place
$12,000
Ginny Giacchino, Jeremy Peacock, and Crystal Sutton
Newton High School
Newton, Massachusetts

3rd Place
$7,000
Steve Saunders, Margot Page, Phyllis Yosef, and Toby Pearson
Community Magnet Charter School
Los Angeles, California
ING Unsung Heroes Awards Program 2011 Application
Application Postmark Deadline: April 30, 2011

The applicant is responsible for completing sections A, B, and C and obtaining the required verification signature in section D. The applicant is also responsible for submitting all application materials, including typewritten responses to the statements on the reverse side of the application. If you represent a team effort, list only one name as “Applicant”; list other names on a separate sheet.

Section A – Applicant Information (please type or print clearly)

Name (Last) (First) (MI)
Home Address

City/Town State Zip Code
Home Phone Number Work Phone Number

How did you hear about this program? (for statistical purposes only)

☐ Internet Website
☐ An ING Agent:
☐ Other:

☐ ING Company Newsletter
☐ Newspaper/magazine:

Section B – School Information

School Name
School Address

School Phone Number School Fax Number

City/Town State Zip Code

School District/Parish

Type of School ☐ Elementary ☐ Middle ☐ High

Your Job Title
Number of Students Enrolled

Section C – Project Information

Project Title/Identify your project in a few words (example: “Take Five, Teach Five”/Mentoring Project)

Indicate the grade(s) in which your project is (will be) applicable: Indicate class size/number of students involved:

Section D – Signatures (Required)

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any award granted. I understand that all information will be shared with ING and its subsidiaries and may be used for publicity purposes. This application becomes the property of ING, its subsidiaries, and Scholarship America.

Applicant’s Signature: Date:

This application must be verified by the school superintendent, principal, or applicant’s immediate supervisor. Obtain the appropriate signature below.

Signature: Date:

Title: Phone Number: ( )

(over)

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY:
AGENT NUMBER
Respond briefly to the three topics below. Limit each statement response to 12-point, double-spaced type on one side of 8½" x 11" paper (approximately 250 words, using one-inch margins). Please label each response using the corresponding statement heading, and include your name in the upper right corner of each page. The total number of pages submitted may not exceed three pages. All applications exceeding this limitation or following another format are subject to disqualification. Supplementary materials such as tapes, news articles, scrapbooks, and so forth, will NOT be reviewed.

**Statement I: Project Description**
Provide a thorough description of your project, clearly stating what you and your students will do. Describe its objectives. Tell how your project is new or different.

**Statement II: Benefits to Students**
How many students does or will the project directly benefit? How will your project improve student learning and impact other students and teachers, parents, and your community? How do you or will you evaluate the effectiveness of your project?

**Statement III: Use of Funds**
Tell what funds/money, materials, or other resources you currently use or will use to operate your project. How will you use the $2,000 award? How will you use additional money up to $25,000? Include a line-item budget that summarizes or categorizes similar items together. Use the following format:

<table>
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<th>$2,000 award:</th>
<th>Additional $10,000 award:</th>
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<th>$5,000 award:</th>
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Please return your application and responses to the statements to:
ING Unsung Heroes Awards Program
c/o Scholarship America
One Scholarship Way
P.O. Box 297
St. Peter, MN 56082

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY:
AGENT NUMBER:

Application Postmark **Deadline: April 30, 2011**