?? ? Greater Clark County Schools is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Teacher of the Year.

One candidate is chosen annually to represent Greater Clark as the WHAS-TV ExCEL Award winner and the corporation's candidate for the Indiana Teacher of the Year Program.

As the ExCEL winner, teachers are given $1,000 to use in their classroom. The winner will be recognized at a ceremony at his/her school in April 2009 and will be invited to a black tie dinner in September 2009.

If chosen as the Indiana Teacher of the Year, the candidate will receive $1,000, a certificate, ring and admission to an awards banquet.

These awards are given to recognize a teacher who exemplifies excellence through innovation, excitement and enthusiasm in teaching.

Candidates should possess meaningful personal relationships with students, parents, colleagues and community members and should show a personal commitment to continued professional development. Candidates are required to have five years teaching experience with Greater Clark County Schools before being considered for the WHAS-TV/GCCS Teacher of the Year award.

Furthermore, recipients of the award within the past five years are not eligible.

The deadline for submitting a candidate as the Greater Clark County Schools Teacher of the Year is Friday, January 23, 2009. To nominate a teacher, please state the reasons you are nominating this individual in typewritten form. Nomination letters should be between 200-500 words. Return the nomination form to: Greater Clark County Schools Administration Building; Attn: Erin Bojorquez; 2112 Utica-Sellersburg Road, Jeffersonville, IN 47130.