



Anne R. Lipnick Special Education Awards
Award Ceremony and School Board Meeting: May 24, 2018

INTRODUCTION (Dr. Berlin):

This evening, we are thrilled to have with us the outstanding nominees for the Anne R. Lipnick Awards for Specialized Instruction honoring an Outstanding Special Education Teacher, an Outstanding General Education Inclusion Teacher, and an Outstanding Paraprofessional. These individuals were nominated by their peers, administrators, and parents.

Alexandria City Public Schools is committed to meeting the needs of diverse learners in all settings within our public schools. These individuals embody the best in service provision to students with disabilities.

This annual celebration, sponsored by the Special Education Advisory Committee and the Office of Specialized Instruction, also honors Anne R. Lipnick, an individual who tirelessly advocated for the needs of students with disabilities in ACPS. Let me tell you a bit about the Anne I knew.

Anne Lipnick, was a social worker and parent support specialist and advisor to families of children with disabilities in Alexandria City Public Schools. She was the first director of the ACPS Special Education Parent Resource Center. For more than 10 years, Ms. Lipnick counseled innumerable families as they navigated the emotional, social and educational hurdles that accompany having a child with special needs. The challenges posed by her own child's disabilities and learning challenges sparked her desire to help others navigate the education system. She was a beloved friend, advocate and voice for underrepresented individuals and a strong supporter of inclusion of people with disabilities in the general education environment and community at large.

Anne Ruth Goldberg was born in Cambridge, MA. and raised in Brookline. She was a 1965 graduate of Brandeis University where she met her future husband, Robert. She received a master's degree in social work in 1972 from the University of Minnesota and practiced social work in Boston, St. Paul, and Stamford before settling in the Washington area in 1979. Ms. Lipnick and her husband traveled extensively. They have two children, Deborah and David.

The Anne Lipnick Inclusion for All Award was added in 2010 to honor Ms. Lipnick and her work. She passed away in March of that year after a struggle with cancer. In 2018, the Harry Burke Award and the Anne Lipnick Inclusion for All Award were merged and renamed in honor of Ms. Lipnick as the Anne R. Lipnick Awards for Specialized Instruction.

Please join me in recognizing the amazing teachers and paraprofessionals who work hard every day and are committed to the success of our students with special needs. I want to also extend a special thank you to our SEAC members, administrators and all staff who are here this evening to support their colleagues. Thank you.