Minnesota Association of School Administrators

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PRESS RELEASE

Electronic versions of this press release and Superintendent Olson's photograph are available. Please email Aimee Ranallo at MASA (aranallo@mnasa.org) to request copies.

Katherine Maguire is the 2014 MN Superintendent of the Year

(St. Paul, Minn.) —The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) has named Superintendent Katherine Maguire, Superintendent for Osseo Area Schools, the 2014 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year.

"I'm honored to represent Minnesota's outstanding superintendents, many of whom are colleagues and mentors," said Kate Maguire. "This award recognizes the progressive, difficult and exciting work occurring in Osseo Area Schools. The improved results we are getting do not happen without strong administrative and teacher leadership, dedicated staff, a supportive community and excellent school board leadership."

As the Minnesota honoree, Superintendent Maguire is a candidate among other state winners for National Superintendent of the Year, to be announced during the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) convention on February 13-15, 2013 in Nashville, TN.

Superintendent of the Year nominees are evaluated on how each candidate demonstrates:

- Leadership for learning—creativity in successfully meeting the needs of students in his or her school system.
- Communication skills—strength in both personal and organizational communication.
- Professionalism—constant improvement of administrative knowledge and skills, while providing professional development opportunities and motivation to others on the education team.
- Community involvement—active participation in local community activities and understanding of regional, national, and international issues.

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Superintendent Maguire was selected for this honor by a panel of representatives from a variety of Minnesota education organizations. “Dr. Maguire is the consummate professional. She is a child-centered educator who truly cares about the development of every student in the Osseo Area Schools,” said MASA Executive Director Dr. Gary Amoroso.

Superintendent Maguire has been with Osseo Area Schools since 1993, serving as superintendent since 2010. Osseo Area Schools is the 5th largest districts in Minnesota, supporting more than 20,000 students at 32 sites in the northwest Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. In her application materials, Superintendent Maguire wrote about the district’s strategic planning and prioritizing, financial planning, instructional work and intentional relationship building throughout the community. Under her leadership, the district reduced $3.1 million from it’s operating budget which lead to the restructuring of two departments to resource priorities around equitable student achievement. Dr. Maguire wrote, “This innovative organizational structure now supports instructional priorities through district site and classroom job-embedded professional development, delivered by equity teachers and curriculum assessment specialists.”

Superintendent Maguire’s executive team nominated her for the award, adding that “Dr. Maguire leads our system’s work to implement our strategic plan’s key strategies, including ‘creating transformational system change to ensure equitable student achievement’ ,” said Olson. “Under her leadership, achievement is climbing; access to college-level coursework has increased; and graduation rates have improved. She has ensured that our system has a clear mission that employees live and breathe every day.”

Superintendent Maguire received her doctorate in education and master’s degree from the University of St. Thomas, and her bachelor’s degree from the College of St. Benedict. Before becoming superintendent for the Osseo Area Schools, she served in a variety of positions for the District including teacher, principal, director of human resources, director of curriculum, and assistant superintendent. Dr. Maguire is an active member of MASA, a member of the University of St. Thomas Educational Leadership Advisory Board, and a member of the Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development.

MASA is a professional organization whose mission is to establish the statewide agenda for children, serve as the preeminent voice for public education, and empower members through quality services and support. MASA members are school superintendents, directors of special education, other central office school administrators, regional administrators, and higher education administrators and professors from throughout Minnesota.

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