

Minnesota Association of School Administrators

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News Release

For Immediate Release: March 21, 2016

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Electronic versions of this press release are available. Please email Dave Christians at MASA (dchristians@mnasa.org) to request copies.

Superintendent John Landgaard Named Administrator of Excellence

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) has named John Landgaard, Superintendent of the Worthington School District, as a 2016 Administrator of Excellence. Landgaard received this award in recognition of his leadership, concern for students, and active involvement in professional and community affairs. Landgaard was honored with the Administrator of Excellence Award at a statewide ceremony during the MASA/MASE Spring Conference, March 10-11, 2016, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest, Brooklyn Park.

Landgaard's achievements reflect his ability to lead important changes in the educational system. During his career, Landgaard collaborated with key stakeholders of the Worthington School District to lead three major building additions over 25 years along with a major energy project; addressed multiple operating referendums over 21 years; participated in the development of the first Flexible Learning Year application; and provided testimony at the Minnesota legislature on major educational issues. Additionally, Landgaard led the implementation of learning devices giving all students technology access, and the development of the Vision 2030 School and Community strategic planning. He guided the district through three AdvancED Education certifications (formerly NCA accreditation), and is currently developing a plan for enrollment growth and a bond election for a new high school within the district.

Landgaard has been an active MASA, MASE and AASA member for 21 years. He served on MASA's legislative committee, board of directors, and organized the Southwest Superintendent's Group for 12 years. Landgaard's involvement in MASA has given him the opportunity to provide testimony at the Minnesota legislature, train new superintendents on school board relations, attend numerous professional development trainings, and serve as a mentor for aspiring administrators through college programs. Landgaard is also a member of Kiwanis (Norwood Young America and Worthington), the Chamber of Commerce (Norwood Young America and Worthington) and has served on the Chamber's legislative committee, Vision 2030 committee, St. Mary's Church member and Eucharist Minister, Cable 3 board and executive committee member, Nobles County Action Group NEON committee, Blandin Leadership Group training, and the Southwest West Central Service Cooperative executive board.

Landgaard received a specialist degree in educational administration from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, South Dakota. He earned his master's degree in educational administration from South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota and his bachelor's degree in physical education from North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota.

Each year, MASA recognizes members for their contribution to public education. MASA is a professional organization of Minnesota's school leaders whose members include over 900 public education and non-public superintendents, directors of special education, curriculum and technology leaders, other central office administrators, service providers, business partners and retirees.

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