

Minnesota Association of School Administrators

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News Release

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Vern Capelle Named Administrator of Excellence

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) has named Vern Capelle, Superintendent of the Upsala Area Schools, a 2019 Administrator of Excellence. Capelle received this award in recognition of his leadership, concern for students, and active involvement in professional and community affairs. He was honored at a statewide recognition ceremony during the MASA/MASE Spring Conference, March 7-8, 2019, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

Capelle's achievements reflect his ability to lead important changes in the educational system. He encompasses what an exemplary career educator looks like in Minnesota and in MASA's Region 5. Capelle is a leader in his district and Region 5 in bringing new and innovative opportunities to students, demonstrating a passion for exploring unique avenues to create pathways for student success. He understands that the definition of success for each student at Upsala may look different depending upon each student's s, expectation, passions, and desires. Under Capelle's leadership, Upsala Public Schools has become a leader in innovative professional development for their staff.

Capelle has spent his entire career at Upsala Public Schools as a teacher, coach, mentor, and administrative leader. Prior to the superintendency, he was a K-12 Dean of Students and a science teacher.

Capelle is an active MASA member and serves on the Federal Advocacy Committee. He also serves on the Sourcewell Superintendent Advisory Committee, Mid State Educational District Executive Committee, Minnesota High School Coaches Association, Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association, Region 5 Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Committee, and a MSHSL Football and Basketball Official.

Capelle earned an educational specialist degree and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Concordia University, St. Paul. He received a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education/Biology from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Each year, MASA recognizes members for their contribution to public education. MASA is a professional organization of Minnesota's school leaders, including superintendents, assistant superintendents, directors of special education, and other central office administrators, as well as state department administrators, college and university professors, and other educators throughout Minnesota dedicated to educational leadership for students.

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