Dear MASA Members,

We are pleased to announce that MASA has named Aaron Ruhland, Director of Learning and Accountability for the Orono Public Schools the 2013 Richard Green Scholar. Aaron will present his research, currently entitled, "Educational Adequacy: Leading the dialogue about educational process and outcomes" at the MASA Fall Conference, October 6-8 in Duluth.

MASA, with the support of Cuningham Group Architecture, Inc., established the Richard Green Scholars Program in 2006 to honor the scholarly work and professional development of Minnesota school leaders. The program is an annual recognition of the research, writing, and presentation of a paper reflecting the practice of excellent school leadership. Scholar candidates apply for the program and a subcommittee of the MASA Executive Development Committee selects the recipient.

As Director of Learning and Accountability in Orono, Aaron provides leadership in the areas of curriculum and instruction, assessment, and professional development. He started with Orono Schools in 1998 as the high school psychologist; he served the middle school as the Dean of Students, and he has been in his current role since 2004. At the University of Minnesota, Aaron received an Educational Specialist degree in Educational Psychology, worked for the National Center on Educational Outcomes, and obtained his Administrative License. He is currently enrolled at the U of M as a Ph.D. student in Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development. His undergraduate degree is in Psychology and Sociology from Hamline University. Aaron’s research interests include policy analysis and organizational development.

"I am deeply grateful for the honor of being named the 2013 Richard Green Scholar," states Aaron. "In reading about Dr. Green’s work and past recipients, I am humbled to be considered among those leaders and that legacy. I believe that scholarship is one of the attributes that sets us apart as educational leaders and I intend for my paper to contribute to our collective understanding of the research and frameworks that underlie educational adequacy. I aspire to support our continued leadership in the conversation about adequate resources and outcomes for our schools. Thank you for the recognition and opportunity. I look forward to sharing this work with you in the fall."
2013 Richard Green Scholar

Former MASA Richard Green Scholars are ~

2006: Diane J. Rauschenfels, Superintendent, Proctor Schools, for her research, "Promoting Ethical Educational Leadership,"

2007: Mark Wolak, Superintendent, Mahtomedi Schools, for his study, "Advancing Professional Practice for School Superintendents: Linking Effective Research with Effective Implementation,"

2008: Karen Orcutt, Superintendent of the Orono Schools, for her work, "Characteristics of Resiliency in Leadership: Implications for Personal and Organizational Coping and Adapting Abilities,"

2009: Jay Haugen, Superintendent of the West Saint Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan School District, for his analysis, "Clear goals and transparent accountability: A public campaign for school improvement,"

2010: Mary Ann Nelson, Adjunct Faculty, Education Leadership Program, Capella University, for her research, An Exploration of School Board-Superintendent Relationship,"

2011: Candace Raskin, Associate Professor, Minnesota State University, Mankato, for her work, "Barriers & Challenges to Implementing Educational Change," and

2012: Wayne Kazmierczak, Assistant Superintendent, Moorhead Area Public Schools, for his research, "Deep Visibility: Meaningful Absence and Presence in the Superintendency."

Information about the scholars program and copies of the research papers are available online at http://www.mnasa.org/domain/28.

“MASA members value life-long learning,” says MASA Executive Director Gary Amoroso, “and a critical focus for us as a professional association is the promotion of personal and professional development. Our goal is to support a professional learning community that inspires critical thinking and assessment of practice, and to recognize the importance of collegial relationships in professional development. The tradition of the presentation of our members’ work at conferences is a reflection of those values, and Aaron’s research is a fitting model of the dedication to scholarship that is at the root of innovation in the practice of educational leadership.”

The Richard Green Scholars Program was named to honor former Minneapolis Superintendent Richard R. Green, who modeled innovation and distinction in the child-centered practice of exemplary school leadership.

The Richard Green Scholars program is offered through the gracious support of Cuningham Group Architecture, Inc.
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