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Schiller Park's Boryszewski honored as 'Superintendent of Distinction'

Schiller Park Superintendent Kimberley Boryszewski was honored as a regional "Superintendent of Distinction" at an awards luncheon Tuesday (April 21) at the governor's Executive Mansion in Springfield. Boryszewski was selected by her peers in the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) West Cook Region.

"To be named a 'Superintendent of Distinction' by my colleagues is very humbling. I am in outstanding company with my fellow superintendents in the West Cook region and I feel privileged to have their esteem," said Boryszewski, who has been an educator for 26 years in Schiller Park District 81, including being superintendent for the past four years. "This nomination is a reflection of the collaboration within the entire District 81 learning community. I am blessed to work alongside talented and dedicated professionals who consistently keep students at the forefront of their decision-making. The phenomenal energy in our district is always focused on student achievement and what is best for our children. I'm grateful for the continued support from my colleagues and family who have made it possible for me to follow my passion in support of public education."

Boryszewski was one of 20 school superintendents from around the state to be recognized as a "Superintendent of Distinction." Governor Bruce Rauner and IASA Executive Director Brent Clark were among those taking part in the awards ceremony.

"Public education is facing some of its most difficult times, and that is when leadership is most important. These 'Superintendents of Distinction' were selected by their peers in their regions because of the dedication, commitment and leadership that they have demonstrated, and we are pleased to recognize them for what they do to fulfill the promise of public education for children all over the state," Clark said.

Boryszewski attained her Doctorate from National Louis University. She served as a teacher, curriculum facilitator and principal before being named superintendent at Schiller Park in 2011.

At Schiller Park, Boryszewski has helped achieve several accomplishments, including:

- Closing the achievement gap between English Language Learners (ELL) and their peers. The district has met the Illinois State Board of Education's Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives;
- Offering a full continuum of services for special education;
- Providing a learning environment that is rich in technology integration, including a 1:1 computing initiative that is scheduled to be launched for the next school year; and
- Developing district-wide ELL and Common Core standards committees to ensure a common experience for students and progressive momentum as a cohesive unit.

Boryszewski and her husband, Bob, have three children, Max, Carli and Mitchell.

The awards and luncheon were sponsored by Horace Mann, one of the nation's largest insurers focusing on educators' needs, and Herff Jones, one of the largest suppliers of class rings, yearbooks and graduation caps, gowns and announcements.

"Superintendents face many challenges. From balancing budgets to keeping schools and students safe, they work to put the needs of students first and consistently work to find, nurture and support quality teachers," said Marita Zuraitis, Horace Mann President and Chief Executive Officer. "Their efforts make their schools outstanding learning environments, and that excellence is what the IASA is celebrating. Horace Mann is proud to recognize and applaud the IASA 'Superintendents of Distinction.' "

"Herff Jones celebrates the educational leaders who are being recognized today for promoting and encouraging excellence in their schools," said Sales Representative Elizabeth Elsner. "Thank you for educating our children."