



MEDIA RELEASE
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Retired Minneapolis Public Schools Principal, Barbara Shin, Receives Professional Leadership Award

(electronic photo attached to this news release)



Barbara Shin

(Roseville, MN, March 29, 2019) – The Minnesota Elementary School Principals’ Association (MESPA) recognized Barbara Shin, retired principal from Minneapolis Public Schools, with the 2019 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award for the Retired Principals of MESPA (RPM). Principals are responsible for a school’s instructional, school culture, and resource leadership. The award honors principals whose exemplary leadership and sustained efforts have made noteworthy contributions to the operation of effective school learning programs — improving education, their communities, and their profession. RPM serves as an active and vital resource to MESPA, assisting and volunteering in a variety of ways including event support and special projects. As an active member of RPM, Shin has continued to make valuable contributions to the principalship and supporting the next generation of educational leaders even after leaving her role as an active principal. She was recognized by colleagues statewide on February 7, 2019 at the MESPYS, the premier elementary principal celebration of the year celebrated during MESPA Institute, the annual statewide convention of Minnesota’s elementary and middle-level principals.

Shin summed up her educational philosophy in a quote: “Educational Leaders are responsible for the condition of the people – all of the people.”

Shin was nominated by Gretchen Peel, retired principal from Osseo Area Schools, and president of the Retired Principals of MESPA. Shin spent 30 years with Minneapolis Public Schools as an elementary

teacher and school administrator, and has also served as a faculty member at Augsburg College, University of Saint Thomas, and Hamline University. Shin retired from Minneapolis Public Schools in 2000. She remains active with RPM and with the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development.

Among her most significant career accomplishments, Shin includes:

- Creating curriculum for science, math and social studies in collaboration with other teachers and with faculty from the University of Minnesota, and designing models that would culturally pluralize curriculum K-12 and teaching this to principal colleagues regionally, nationally, and internationally.
- Creating and implementing two different educational schooling models as a K-8 Principal and a K-12 Principal. Both addressed cultural diversity and equity.
- Following through as a practitioner/researcher on a graduate research project that resulted in the development of a usable tool to assess the leadership potential for culture, diversity, and equity of school administrators to be used along with other measures in admission, exit, and progress monitoring criteria for administrative licensure programs.

MESPA members selected 13 of their peers to receive the 2019 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award. Jon Millerhagen, MESPA Executive Director, congratulated the award winners by saying, "MESPA members who receive the Division Leadership Achievement Award are the strong foundations of their schools, their communities, and our association. They are transformational leaders who care deeply for their students. Our association benefits greatly from their knowledge, enthusiasm, passion, and commitment."

2019 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award Recipients

- Kate Flynn, St. Cloud Area Schools, Central Division
- Julie Greiman, Forest Lake Area Schools, East Suburban Division
- Dr. Lloyd E. Winfield, Minneapolis Public Schools, Minneapolis Division
- Dr. Amy Reed, Anoka-Hennepin School District, North Suburban Division
- Debra Reynolds, Hermantown Community Schools, Northeast Division
- Jason Luksik, Bemidji Area Schools, Northern Division
- Be Cheuyee Vang, St. Paul Public Schools, St. Paul Division
- Taber Akin, Lakeville Area Schools, South Suburban Division
- Gina Meinertz, Caledonia Area Public Schools, Southeast Division

- Toni Jo Stamer-Baartman, Pipestone Area Schools, Southwest Division
- Dr. Kari Wehrmann, Wayzata Public Schools, West Suburban Division
- Jason Kuehn, Detroit Lakes Public Schools, Western Division
- Barbara Shin, Retired Principals of MESPA

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MESPA works to: Improve education for Minnesota students through collaboration and advocacy; **Unite** current, past, and future licensed elementary and middle-level principals; **Encourage** and support a cooperative relationship between MESPA and other state/national organizations; and **Advocate** for the professional ethical, economic, and social welfare of its members.

MESPA Mission: The Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association strives to be the premier leadership resource for elementary and middle-level principals and a strong leading voice for public education. MESPA is committed to ensuring a high quality education for all children through strengthening and enhancing the principal's role as educational leader in our schools.