



MEDIA RELEASE
Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association
1970 Oakcrest Avenue, Suite 204
Roseville, MN 55113

Contacts: Amy Thompson, Communications Manager
952.297.8672; amy@mespa.net
Michele Brouse, Retired Principal of MESPA
651.283.6221; michele@rmbrouse.com

Retired Principal of MESPA, Michele Brouse, Receives Professional Leadership Award

(Roseville, MN, March 11, 2020) – The Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA) recognized Michele Brouse (*right*), retired principal of Mounds View Elementary, with the 2020 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award for MESPA's



Retired Principals of MESPA committee. 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. She was recognized by colleagues statewide on February 6, 2020, 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.

Brouse was nominated by Jayne Ropella, president of the Retired Principals of MESPA committee. In her nomination, Ropella wrote: "Michele has been nominated for this award, due to all the hard work she has done for years on membership, communication and organization of the RPM group. Each year she would make sure all members received emails and fliers on the meetings and events of the group. Michele personally welcomed me to the group just prior to my retirement. It was because of her that I knew about the group and joined."

Reflecting on her career, Brouse wrote: "Through my work as a principal I kept my focus on leading my staffs toward meeting the individual needs of our learners by helping each child to achieve his/her highest potential of achievement. This resulted in staff members leading effective finely tuned interventions for learning resulting in noteworthy academic growth and high student self esteem."

"After being retired for almost twelve years and being able to enjoy hindsight I have an increased appreciation for messages that I shared with each of my staffs. One simple one that has the potential for long lasting effects is to have fun with your students throughout the day while they are working hard. Learning is well fertilized with a hearty dose of shared laughter and good times."

MESPA members selected 13 of their peers to receive the 2020 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."

2020 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award Recipients

- Mark Ziebarth, Isanti Intermediate School for All Seasons, Central Division
- Andrew Cafilish, Armstrong Elementary, East Suburban Division
- Tamara Goetz, Seward Montessori School, Minneapolis Division
- Elizabeth Ness, Elm Creek Elementary, North Suburban Division
- Andrew Dokken, Rippleside Elementary, Northeast Division
- Kurt Becker, Cuyuna Range, Elementary, Northern Division
- Craig Anderson, Battle Creek Elementary, St. Paul Division
- Tami Staloch-Schultz, Westview Elementary, South Suburban Division
- Abe Rodemeyer, Byron Intermediate School, Southeast Division
- Doug Storbeck, Granada-Huntley-East Chain Public School, Southwest Division
- Dr. Andrew Vollmuth, Normandale Hills Elementary, West Suburban Division
- Josh St. Louis, S.G. Reinersten Elementary, Western Division
- Michele Brouse, Retired Principals of MESPA

-- end --

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.