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ESMEC

SERVING THE SCHOOL SYSTEMS AND STUDENTS OF THE EASTERN SHORE SINCE 1986.

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Congratulations!



CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. JOHN GADDIS, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS WHO WAS SELECTED AS THE **MARYLAND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR!**

DR. GADDIS IS IN HIS 30TH YEAR IN PUBLIC EDUCATION. PRIOR TO BECOMING SUPERINTENDENT IN SOMERSET COUNTY, GADDIS WAS A TEACHER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, PRINCIPAL, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR INSTRUCTION IN THE WORCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM. IN 2013, HE WAS APPOINTED AS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS IN SOMERSET COUNTY AND WAS REAPPOINTED TO HIS SECOND TERM IN 2017.

A GRADUATE OF POCOMOKE HIGH SCHOOL, DR. GADDIS EARNED A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE AND MASTER'S DEGREES FROM SALISBURY UNIVERSITY AND A DOCTORATE FROM WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY.

Aspiring Leaders Conference

In cooperation with Salisbury University and the Academy for Leadership in Education, in October, the annual Education Leadership Conference was held at Salisbury University. The five practices of leadership identified by Drs. Posner and Kouzes in the book, "Leadership Challenge" provided a framework for the conference. The conference included two general sessions and ten breakout sessions. The keynote speakers for the general sessions were Ms. Cindy Dillon, Maryland Middle School Principal of the Year and Ms. Mildred Charley-Green, Maryland High School Principal of the Year. Over 120 aspiring school leaders, from the nine public school systems of the Eastern Shore, attended the conference.

Eastern Shore Superintendents Adopt Legislative Initiatives

The Eastern Shore Superintendents of Schools adopted six legislative initiatives for the 2019 Maryland General Assembly Session. The initiatives are:

- **Funding:** Provide funds to meet the existing state public school funding formula and add pre-kindergarten children to the funding formula.
- **Capital Projects:** Provide state funds to address the capital school renovation and construction costs of identified school construction projects. *(For a complete listing of projects see table attached.)*
- **Technology:** Create a funding mechanism to allow school systems to upgrade infrastructure and purchase or replace devices for student use.
- **Assessment:** Support the need to allow local school systems to determine the type and use of assessments to monitor and support student learning.
- **Local Control:** Support the critical need for local control by maintaining the authority of local boards of education.
- **Teacher Shortage:** Declare a teacher crisis shortage in Maryland and adopt programs to encourage more people to become teachers.

Maryland Teacher Shortage Crisis

Historically, Maryland Institutions of Higher Education (MIHE) do not graduate enough teachers to meet the needs of Maryland public school systems. On the average, MIHE graduate approximately 2,600 teacher educators per year and Maryland needs to hire over 6,000 teachers per year. In some specific content areas, the shortage is critical. As an example, in 2016, MIHE graduated 71 teachers certified in mathematics while Maryland public school systems needed to hire over 400 new math teachers. The same high demand and lack of supply exists in all other content areas. To address this challenge, Shore school systems have implemented Teacher Academy Programs and adopted "Grow our Own" teacher scholarships. However, to make sure that every student has a highly qualified and dedicated teacher, we will need the concerted efforts of state and local elected officials and the leadership of our MIHE's.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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