

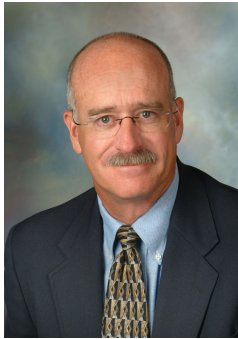
**DATE: November 16, 2009**

**TO: All Media**

**FROM: Cheryl Semmel, Kansas Association of School Administrators Executive Director**

**SUBJECT: Salina's Rob Winter Named Kansas Superintendent of the Year**

**CONTACTS: Cheryl Semmel, 785-232-6566; Dr. Rob Winter, 785-309-4727**



*Topeka* – Salina Superintendent Rob Winter has been selected as the 2010 Kansas Superintendent of the Year by the Kansas Association of School Administrators. He has been a superintendent for the Salina Public Schools since 2004.

Candidates for superintendent of the year are assessed according to their professionalism, communication, community involvement and leadership in meeting the needs of students. As Kansas Superintendent of the Year, Dr. Winter will be recognized at the KASA Awards and Recognition breakfast during the USA|Kansas annual convention in January, and will go on to compete in the National Superintendent of the Year program. In addition, KASA provides a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school senior selected by the Kansas Superintendent of the Year.

“I am about the business of working for all kids,” Dr. Winter said. “Public education, by design, is available to all children—no matter the social class, socio-economic background, religious belief, physical features or ethnicity. I am particularly passionate about speaking for the children who perhaps don’t have an advocate.”

Dr. Winter said he is truly honored to be selected for this award, and looks forward to the opportunities his selection will provide to advocate for Kansas public education.

“There is, in my estimation, no higher calling than to work with young people,” Dr. Winter said. “The work we do as superintendents takes courage and commitment, and is never without significant challenges and opportunities, but it is essential to the future of this state and nation.”

Prior to coming to Salina, Dr. Winter was superintendent of schools in Scottsbluff, NE for ten years. Kansas experience includes six years as superintendent for Riley County USD 378, Riley, KS and superintendent of schools for three years in Cheylin USD 103, Bird City, KS. He also served as high school principal in the Cheylin School District. Dr. Winter began his education career as a teacher for Artesia Public Schools, Artesia, NM.

Dr. Winter earned his undergraduate degree from New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM. He holds a masters degree from the University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, and a doctorate in education administration from Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS. He is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, the Kansas Association of School Administrators, the United School Administrators of Kansas and Phi Delta Kappa. He is active in

various community and civic organizations, including Rotary Club and executive boards for the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce, YMCA and Salina Education Foundation. He recently also served on the executive boards for both Hospice of Salina and the Salina Area United Way Board.

Dr. Winter is currently secretary of the Kansas Council of Superintendents. Salina USD 305 was one of two lead plaintiffs in the Montoy Vs. State of Kansas school funding lawsuit, and continues to be an active member in Schools for Fair Funding. Dr. Winter is also a part of a delegation representing the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Salina and Salina Airport Authority who lobby state and national leaders on various legislative issues.

“Now, perhaps more than any time in the history of education, our students and schools are in need of strong leaders and advocates,” says Cheryl Semmel, executive director of the Kansas Association of School Administrators. “Dr. Winter has been a passionate advocate not only in his district, but for students statewide. He has demonstrated a clear commitment to improving student performance, closing the achievement gap and developing future leaders.”

Dr. Winter will represent Kansas at the American Association of School Administrators’ National Conference on Education in February and will be considered for the National Superintendent of the Year program.

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