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Auburn Washburn's Superintendent Dietrich Named Kansas "Superintendent of the Year"

Topeka – Brenda S. Dietrich, Ph.D., Superintendent of the Auburn Washburn School District since 2001, has been named the 2007 Kansas Superintendent of the Year by the Kansas Association of School Administrators (KASA).

Dietrich is the nineteenth recipient of this honor bestowed on a Kansas school leader by a committee of her peers and is now eligible for the National Superintendent of the Year Program co-sponsored by ARAMARK and the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). The National Superintendent of the Year is announced at the 2007 AASA National Conference on Education in March. According to Cheryl Semmel, Executive Director for KASA, "it is certainly significant that a group of Dietrich's professional colleagues have identified her as a leader in the state and have selected her to represent Kansas among other administrators across the nation."

Dr. Dietrich, a Kansas native, has served as superintendent of the Auburn Washburn District since 2001. In addition to her leadership in the district, Dietrich is actively engaged in professional activities throughout the region and state. She has served on the AASA Scholarship Selection Committee, chaired the KASA Council of Superintendents and Legislative/Kansas State Board of Education Monitoring Committee. Currently, Dietrich is chair of the United School Administrators of Kansas Legislative Committee and the KAW Area Technical School Advisory Board.

Joyce Martin, Auburn Washburn USD 437 Board president says, "Dr. Dietrich's leadership ability is evident throughout her personal and professional career. Brenda is an outstanding ambassador for USD 437. She provides knowledge, experience, leadership and compassion not only in the school district but throughout the Topeka community and the state by forging alliances and support for the district." Dr. Dietrich has chaired committees for the United Way, Leadership Greater Topeka, and is a graduate of Leadership Kansas.

Former Kansas Commissioner of Education, Andy Tompkins states, "She is highly regarded in her community and throughout the state and is often called upon to testify on important issues. It is clear that her passion has emerged from a sincere and genuine interest in the welfare of all children and a clear understanding of the link between the job of the schools and the ultimate success of the individual and society."

Eleven superintendents representing districts throughout Kansas were considered for this honor. Superintendents were nominated by their colleagues for leadership for learning, communication, professionalism, and community involvement. Each candidate completed an extensive application and interview process.