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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Resource Training & Solutions Honors 146 Leaders in Education at the 2018 Leadership in Educational Excellence Awards on Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Joe Beckman, speaker and owner of the company, "Epic on Purpose," knows one of Maya Angelou's famous quotes rings especially true for educators who teach students in today's device-driven world: "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Beckman, the keynote speaker at the 2018 Leaders in Educational Excellence Awards (LEEA) held on Wednesday, October 24, at River's Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud, told over 146 educators honored at the event that "teachers face greater challenges with students in their profession in our ever-connected environment." He explained that human connection always matters most to students and that, to them, feelings matter as much as facts. He went on to share strategies that may help educators intentionally reclaim human connection with their students each day. He closed his remarks with deep gratitude for all of the educators who help students each day and reiterated how vitally important human connection with an educator is for those students who face extraordinarily difficult struggles.

The 2018 Leaders in Educational Excellence Awards (LEEA) opened with a welcome address from Mark Schmitz, Executive Director at Resource Training & Solutions. Ken Anderson, chair of the Resource Training & Solutions' Board of Directors, also extended his congratulations to the honorees. Over 481 attended the annual event. Schools and districts across Resource's central Minnesota region nominate award recipients based on suggested criteria that includes how educators inspire fellow colleagues, students, and communities through positive leadership, utilize curriculum development, motivate students, implement instructional effectiveness, act as strong role models, and display dedication to the profession of education. Public, private, parochial, and charter schools were included in the event, as well as Meeker and Wright Special Education Cooperative, the West Central Education District, and the Wright Technical Center.

Participating school districts, along with Resource Training & Solutions, sponsors the Leaders in Educational Excellence Awards (LEEA). Deb Thomes, Student Programs and Events Coordinator and the Learning and Development team at Resource Training & Solutions coordinate the event. In its 27th year, LEEA event has honored nearly 4,000 central Minnesota educators. The next LEEA event will be on October 23, 2019.

View photographs of the LEEA honorees and school district representatives at www.resource training.com after November 2, 2018.

2018 LEEA Recipients

Bold: Superintendent

ALBANY

Greg Johnson

Becky Bartz

Rebecca Ellering

Katie Radeke

Rachel Von Wahlde

ANNANDALE

Tim Prom

Tessa Dickinson

Adrienne Edmonson

Kelsey Harps

Angel LeMieux

BECKER

Dr. Stephen Malone

Natalie Geier

Karen Landsverk

Maggie Maine

Erika Snook

BELGRADE/BROOTEN/ELROSA

Patrick Walsh

Chris Anderson

Jason Langer

BIG LAKE

Steve Westerberg

Kelly Kazeck

Deb Myhre

Chris Olson

Rebecca Streit

BRAHAM

Ken Gagner

Emily Ludwig

Korey Sybrant

BUFFALO/HANOVER/MONTROSE

Dr. Scott Thielman

Michelle Koren

Nicole Meints

Scott Rabehl

Linda Robeck

DASSEL-COKATO

Jeff Powers

Carissa Chap

Bryan Clemen

Wendy Johnson

Elizabeth Niemela

DELANO

Dr. Matthew W. Schoen

Mary Somers

(Delano continued)

Marie Techam
Shallyn Tordeur
Nate Uselding

EAST CENTRAL

Andy Almos

Joy Class
Polly Melhus
Jeff Tuckner
Keith Yehlik

EDEN VALLEY-WATKINS

Mark Messman

Mary Ann Holdvogt
Tammy Winter

FOLEY

Paul Neubauer

Samantha Lanners
Laurie Peterson
Jay Storkamp

HINCKLEY-FINLAYSON

Rob Prater

Dennis Boxrud
Dan Kreft
Vicki Larson
Brent Nelson

HOWARD LAKE-WAVERLY-WINSTED

Brad Sellner

Rachel Erger
Leann Gallagher
Alexandra Thrasher

ISLE

Dean Kapsner

Stacie Noha
Levi Tronnes

KALEIDOSCOPE

Dr. Brett Wedlund

Danielle Jespersion

KIMBALL

Eric Widvey

Zach Boser
Emma Hohulin

MAPLE LAKE

Mark Redemske

Mary Beth Barder
Chad Hammerschmidt
Nancy Kopff
Debbie Stang

MEEKER AND WRIGHT

SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

Janel Bullard

Jennifer Lynch

MELROSE

Gregory Winter

Vaughn Glasener

Bill Leraas

Laurel Oberg

(Melrose continued)

Terryl Pearson

Stephanie Salto

MONTICELLO

Eric Olson

Lisa Boraas

Alan Clark

Dan Gruhlke

Kathryn Leuthner

Lisa Schrupp

MORA

Craig Schultz

Jessica Larsen

Karl E. Norvell

Lindsey Peterson

Jennifer Rydberg

NORTH BRANCH

Dr. Deb Henton

Maggie Hubbling

Holly McWilliams

Sheryl Read-Slaughter

Jennifer Van Dyke

OGILVIE

Kathy Belsheim

Kathy Ambrose

Lee Ann Falen

Trisha Kotsmith

Art Sanbeck

PRINCETON

Benjamin Barton

Jodi Gatewood

Dianne Greenwood

Michelle Hallbeck

Scott Walquist

ROCKFORD

Paul Durand

Darren Eliason

Jill Gordee

Kristine Mateyka

ROCORI

Brad Kelvington

Jay Larson

Greg Spanier

Mary Swanson

Peter Warne

ROYALTON

John Phelps

Greta Bergman

Lindsey Gruber

RUSH CITY

William Campbell

Jeremy Albright
Ashley Lakeberg
Eric Telander
Michael Vauhghan

SAINT JOHN'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Jonathan Licari, OSB

Matt Beck
Susan Kolb

SARTELL-ST STEPHEN

Jeff Schwiebert

Jen Bettenberg
Lori Dornburg
Josh Stewart
Kellie Turner

SAUK CENTRE

Patrick Westby

Amy Goodwin
Gordy Hagert
Nikki Linscheid

SAUK RAPIDS-RICE

Aaron Sinclair

Shelby Chollett
Melissa Johnson
Grant Novacinski
Brent Pakkala
Brienne Wegter

ST. CLOUD

Willie Jett II

Amanda Anderson
Morgan Barrett
Paul Bates
George Bienusa
Dianne Brady
Eglantina Cenolli
Molly Denne
Sylvia Huff
Steven Kline
Karen Kruse
Jill Lipp
Brenda Mayer
Michael Myers-Schleif
Amy O'Hare
Carolyn Otto
Sara Sliter
Kristin Sowada
Steve Taylor
David Vaerst
George Zahn
Leah Zook

ST. CLOUD DIOCESE

Linda Kaiser

Janine Braun, OSB
Wanda Gau

(St. Cloud Diocese continued)

Amy Kloth

Cindy Pfannenstein

ST. MICHAEL-ALBERTVILLE

Dr. Ann-Marie Foucault

Heidi Bast

John Hertwig

Madeline Johnson

Amy Zeidler

STRIDE Academy

Eric Williams

Sara Voss

WATERTOWN-MAYER

Ron Wilke

Tim Jaszczak

Lou Mulqueeny

Vicki Tam-Anderson

WEST CENTRAL EDUCATION DISTRICT

Laurie Fevig

Jennifer Nietfeld

WRIGHT TECHNICAL CENTER

Brian Koslofsky

Hannah Sewald

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