



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*
DATE: March 24, 2009
SUBJECT: Maryland Superintendent of the Year

PURPOSE:

To recognize Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent, St. Mary's County Public Schools, on his selection as Maryland's Superintendent of the Year for 2009.

BACKGROUND:

Each year the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) selects a local superintendent of schools as Maryland Superintendent of the Year. This individual is selected on the basis of his/her leadership for learning, communication skills, professionalism, and community involvement. Once selected, Maryland's Superintendent of the Year is entered into competition to be named National Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Martirano's resume is attached.

Since being named superintendent of St. Mary's County Public Schools in July 2005, Dr. Martirano has reorganized the school system with an emphasis on service to schools. He takes every opportunity to fully engage in school-based discussions on what works best for students, and is guided by one focus -- creating a total community committed to learning and safety for all children in St. Mary's County. Dr. Martirano has established a vision plan entitled "Charting a Course to Excellence" that highlights 15 priorities to improve student achievement. His vision has also led to the implementation of Educational Pathways, including the establishment of STEM Academies at all three levels that provide a rigorous curriculum focused on mathematics and science with an infusion of technology and engineering; an Academy of Finance; and alternative pathways to high school success, including the Tech Connect program and the Fairlead Academy which is a 9th grade school geared toward preventing high school dropouts. Additionally, programs have been added to the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center to meet the needs of all students. "When Dr. Martirano became superintendent, he recognized the needs of the school system and welcomed the challenge to take a good school system and make it a great school system," wrote Mr. William Mattingly, chairman of the Board of Education of St. Mary's County, in his letter nominating Dr. Martirano for this award. "He

understood the basic principles needed, i.e., that school systems are about people and providing the opportunity to students, one student at a time. It is about recognizing and supporting teachers and also about the community.”

ACTION:

The Board wishes to congratulate Dr. Martirano on being selected Maryland Superintendent of the Year and to thank him for his leadership of the St. Mary’s County Public Schools.

NSG/cln

Attachment

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Friday, October 24, 2008****Zina McGowan-Thomas, Public Information Officer, 301-475-5511, ext. 193****DR. MARTIRANO NAMED MARYLAND'S SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR**

LEONARDTOWN, MD – Dr. Michael J. Martirano , superintendent of schools, was named Maryland 's Superintendent of the Year by the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) at the PSSAM conference retreat dinner held October 23, 2008, in Ocean City, MD. The Superintendent of the Year Award is presented annually at the conference to recognize a chief administrator who exemplifies excellence and achievement in educational leadership.

“Under Dr. Martirano’s leadership, the St. Mary’s County Public School System has made significant progress in ensuring that all students have access to a rigorous educational program,” said Dr. Carl Roberts, executive director of PSSAM. “He is accomplishing this through a collaborative, yet aggressive leadership style that will not yield to distractions that delay achievement of the school system's mission.”

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“When Dr. Martirano became superintendent, he recognized the needs of the school system and welcomed the challenge to take a good school system and make it a great school system,” wrote Mr. William Mattingly, chairman of the Board of Education of St. Mary’s County, in his letter nominating Dr. Martirano for this award. “He understood the basic principles needed i.e., that school systems are about people and providing the opportunity to students, one student at a time. It is about recognizing and supporting teachers and also about the community.”

During a recent visit to St. Mary’s County, Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, state superintendent of schools, credited Dr. Martirano for the school systems “truly stunning” initiatives and continued progress. “It was evident in all of the information shared that critical decision-making and strategic planning is taking place at every important moment in the St. Mary’s County Public School System,” she concluded.

In 2007, Dr. Martirano was selected as the Superintendent of the Year by the American Cancer Society Maryland Region. In addition, he was named a 2006-2007 Outstanding Leader by the University of Maryland's College of Education . In 2006, he was named the Educational Administrator of the Year by the Maryland Association of Educational Office Professionals (MAEOP).

“Dr. Martirano's leadership skills, his enthusiastic nature, and his welcoming personality have brought out the best in St. Mary's County Public Schools,” said Mrs. Cathy Allen, vice chairman of the Board of Education of St. Mary’s County. “His leadership and knowledge have combined to ensure that students and staff have every opportunity to be successful. He is an asset to our community and being recognized as Maryland Superintendent of the Year is a well deserved honor.”

Dr. Martirano will now go on to compete against other state superintendents throughout the United States for the 2009 National Superintendent of the Year award sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). AASA will announce the winner in February 2009, at its National Conference on Education in San Francisco, CA .

“Dr. Martirano is an outstanding selection for Maryland ’s Superintendent of the Year award and is an excellent candidate for National Superintendent of the Year consideration,” said Dr. Roberts.

Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.
 22398 Crossbill Lane
 Leonardtown, Maryland 20650
 301-475-6576 (h) or 301-475-5511, ext. 178 (w)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

7/05 - present	Superintendent of Schools	St. Mary's County Public Schools
1/01 – 12/04	Faculty Associate	Johns Hopkins University
8/02 - 7/05	Director of School Administration	Howard County Public Schools
7/01 - 8/02	High School Principal	Laurel High School (9-12), Prince George's County Public Schools
7/00 - 7/01	Director	Down County Consortium of Schools, Montgomery County Public Schools
1/99 - 7/00	Elementary School Principal	Sligo Creek Elementary School (K-5), Montgomery County Public Schools
5/95 - 1/99	Elementary School Principal	Scotchtown Hills Elementary School, Prince George's County Public Schools
8/94 - 5/95	Area Teacher Specialist	Area I Regional Office, Prince George's County Public Schools
2/94 - 9/94	Middle School Assistant Principal	Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Prince George's County Public Schools
8/90 to 1/94	Teacher	Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Prince George's County Public Schools
1/83 to 8/90	Student Affairs Administrator	Department of Resident Life, University of Maryland, College Park

EDUCATION:

1994	<u>Doctorate of Education</u> School Management and Instructional Leadership	Nova Southeastern University
1992	<u>Master of Education</u> Educational Policy, Planning, and Administration	University of Maryland
1985	<u>Master of Education</u> Counseling and Personnel Services	University of Maryland
1981	<u>Bachelor of Science</u> Science Education	University of Maryland

CERTIFICATION:

Superintendent Endorsement in Maryland
Principal and Supervisor Certification in Maryland
Advanced Professional Certificate (APC) in Maryland
High School and Middle School Teacher/Biology Grades 5 -12

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Member, Washington Area Superintendent's Council (Treasurer for 2006-2007, Vice President for 2007-2008, President for 2008-2009)
Member, Public School Superintendent's Association of Maryland
Member, American Association of School Administrators
Member, Association for School Business Officials
Member, St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors
Member, Leonardtown Rotary Club
Member, St. Mary's County Historical Society
Member, The Horace Mann League
Honorary Board Member, Maryland Council on Economic Education
Member, Christmas in April, Board of Directors, 2007-2008
The Honor Society of Phi Delta Kappa
Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Society
Outstanding Young Men of America
Who's Who Among College and University Students
Who's Who Among American Teachers
Who's Who Biltmore Influential National Leader
Member, Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals
Member, National Association of Elementary School Principals
Member, Maryland Science Teachers Association
Member, Association of Supervisory and Administrative School Personnel
Member, Maryland Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
Member, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

AWARDS:

Selected as the 2009 Maryland State Superintendent of the Year by the Public School Superintendent's Association of Maryland (PSSAM)
Selected as the 2007 Superintendent of the Year for the Maryland Region by the American Cancer Society
Selected as the 2006-2007 Outstanding Leader by the University of Maryland College of Education
Selected as a member of the Leadership Maryland Class of 2007 and gave the Valedictorian Address
Selected as the 2006 Administrator of the Year by the Maryland Association of Educational Office Professionals (MAEOP)
Selected as a 1998 Outstanding Educator for Prince George's County
Selected as a member of the 1997 Leadership Prince George's Class XIII
Selected to participate in the 1997 Washington Post Principal's Leadership Institute (Inaugural Class)
Selected as the 1993 Outstanding Science Teacher for the State of Maryland by the Chemical Industry Council of Maryland

PRESENTATIONS:

Keynote Speaker for 21st Century Learning Conference in Richmond, VA. March 5, 2008.
Keynote Speaker for 21st Century Learning Conference in Washington, D.C. December 4, 2007.
Leadership Maryland Class of 2007 Valedictorian Address in Washington, D.C. December 4, 2007.
Presentation to *Maryland State Department of Education STEM Consortium Conference.*
March 23, 2007.

- Martirano, M., et al (2006) Differentiated Leadership Development. Presentation to *Council of Educational and Administrative Supervisors of Maryland (CEASOM)*. October 30, 2006.
- Teachers of Promise: Superintendent's Panel Discussion held at the Washington Post Leadership 2006-2007 Program. Presentation on Leadership Issues Affecting the Principalship.
- "*School Improvement Unit: Focus on Student Acceleration*"
(November, 2004): Presented at the 2004 CEASOM Conference held in Towson, Maryland.
- "*Working with Students During the Summer Months*"
(April, 2003): Presented to Administrators and PTA Presidents in the Howard County Public School System's School Improvement Unit.
- "*Using SMART Objective to Write a School Improvement Plan*"
(November 2002): Presented to Assistant Principals in the Howard County Public School System.
- "*Writing School Improvement Plans: Lessons Learned*"
(October 2002): Presented to Principals and Assistant Principals in the Howard County Public School System.
- "*Dimensions of Leadership*"
(July, 1998): Presented at the Superintendent's Principal's training for all principals in the Prince George's County Public Schools.
- "*What Makes a Good Principal?*"
(July, 1998): Presented at the Superintendent's Principal's training for new principals.
- "*MSPAP Parent Awareness and Practice Session.*"
(April, 1998): Presented at the Scotchtown Hills Parenting Series.
- "*Parental Assistance with Elementary School Homework Workshop*"
(January, 1997); Presented at the Scotchtown Hills Parenting Series.
- "*Using Monthly Performance-Based Science Assessments to Improve Classroom Instruction.*"
(May, 1995); Presented at the Annual Maryland Middle School Conference held in Elkridge, Maryland.
- "*Portfolios: Do They Really Work?*"
(April, 1995); Presented at the Prince George's County Spring Conference on Performance Assessment held in Bowie, Maryland.
- "*A System-Wide Approach to Performance-Based Assessments.*"
(November, 1994); Presented at the 1994 Maryland Assessment Group 10th Annual Conference held in Ocean City, Maryland.
- "*Using the Theory of Multiple Intelligences to Implement Monthly Developmental Science Projects.*" (November, 1994); Presented at the annual MINDFEST Conference sponsored by Montgomery County Public Schools held in Germantown, Maryland.
- "*Translating the Theory of Multiple Intelligences to Practice.*"
(October, 1994); Presented to History teachers in the Allegany County Public School System held in Cumberland, Maryland.

PUBLICATIONS:

- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) Video: 2007 DVD, *Learning to Think...Think to Learn* that features four SMCPS exemplary teachers who model the process of teaching thinking skills processes and facilitating student application of these skills.
- Martirano, M., et al. (2007) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academies. 2006-2007.
- Wilson, Leslie Walker (2002): *Improving Your Elementary School, Eye on Education*, Appendix B: pp. 115-117, *Creative Ways to Make More Time for Elementary School Teachers* (Michael J. Martirano).
- Martirano, M. J. (1997). *Hands-On Assessment. Science Scope*. September. (pp 62).
- Martirano, M. J. (1997). *Changing Seasons: Stress in a Student's Life. Schools in the Middle*. June. (pp 39-40).
- Martirano, M. J. (1997). *Academic Excellence: Making It a Total School Program. Schools in the Middle*. February. (pp 40-41).
- Martirano, M. J. (1995). *Celebrating the Brown Decision, President Clinton Teaches at the Middle Level. Schools in the Middle*. May. (pp 43-44).

- Martirano, M. J. (1995). *Come Fly With Me*. Science Scope. May. (pp 19-21).
- Martirano, M. J. (1995). *Football Field Goals and Foul Shots*. Science Scope. January. (pp 21-26).
- Martirano, M. J. (1994). *Portfolios: Do They Really Work?* Middle Years. Fall, 5. (pp 31-34).
- Martirano, M. J. (1994). *Using the Theory of Multiple Intelligences To Implement Monthly Developmental Science Projects*. Middle Years. Fall, 5. (pp 22-24).
- Martirano, M. J.. (1994). *My Beautiful Balloons*. Science Scope. April. (pp 3-5).
- Martirano, M. J. (1993). *What All Students Should Know*. The MAST Rapper. 2(18). (pp. 9).
- Martirano, M. J. (1992). *The Use Of Portfolios To Enhance Middle School Student Performance In Science*. The MAST Rapper. 4(17). (pp. 18-21).
- Martirano, M. J. (1992). *Alternative Assessment Strategies: the Use of Portfolios To Enhance Performance In Middle School Science*. Middle Years. Fall, 4. (pp. 3-5).