



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • msde.maryland.gov

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Karen B. Salmon

DATE: April 23, 2019

SUBJECT: Maryland Superintendent of the Year - 2019

Purpose:

To recognize Dr. John Gaddis, Superintendent, Somerset County Public Schools on his selection as Maryland Superintendent of the Year – 2019.

Background:

Dr. Gaddis is in his 30th year as a public school educator in the state of Maryland and in his sixth year as superintendent for Somerset County Public Schools. In 2013 he was appointed as Interim Superintendent; in 2014 he was awarded a four year contract and was reappointed to a second term in 2018. Dr. Gaddis has been a successful elementary teacher, vice principal, principal, coordinator of instruction and assistant superintendent for instruction prior to accepting the position of superintendent.

Dr. Gaddis has been an educational leader across the state of Maryland and is currently serving as Legislative Chair of the Public School Superintendents' Association of Maryland. He is also an elected commissioner for the Middle States Association and has been a member of a variety of professional organizations as well as civic organizations in Somerset County.

During Dr. Gaddis' tenure there have been a number of accomplishments for Somerset County. Somerset County was the first county in the state to feed all students with the CEP Program. Also, Somerset County has led the way in providing all day universal pre-K for the last five years. Further, Somerset County was the first county to provide "Project Lead the Way" instruction to all students in all grades.

After graduating from Pocomoke high School, Dr. Gaddis earned his Bachelor's degree and Master's degree from Salisbury University. He has a Doctorate degree in Leadership and

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Innovation from Wilmington University, where his dissertation was published based on the topic of special education inclusion and the impact on non-disabled students.

Dr. Gaddis has presented at a variety of local and state conferences and was honored by Wilmington University with their prestigious Service Award for Service to Others and his Community.

ACTION:

Public recognition. No other action required.

Attachment