

# Minnesota Administrators for Special Education

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News Release

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## Scott Hare Receives MASE Special Education Administrator of the Year Award

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Administrators for Special Education (MASE) has named Scott Hare, Director of Student Support Special Services of Mankato Area Public Schools, as the 2019 Special Education Administrator of the Year. Hare has received this award for his dedication to students with disabilities and their families, and his active involvement in professional and community affairs. He will be honored at a statewide recognition ceremony during the MASA/MASE Spring Conference, March 7-8, 2019, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

“I have known Scott for over twenty years and during that time I have seen him evolve from a high school principal into one of the most respected veteran special education leaders in Minnesota,” said Darren Kermes, Superintendent of the SouthWest Metro Intermediate District. “Scott has mentored numerous aspiring special education directors and it is time to acknowledge all that he has done for the field of special education in our state.”

Hare has served as the Director of Student Support Services for the Mankato Area Public Schools since 2017. Prior to serving in Mankato, he was the Director of Special Services and then the Executive Director of Administrative Service for the Shakopee Public Schools. Hare has worked in several administrative capacities at the Belle Plaine and Jordan Public Schools, Goodhue County Education District, Melrose Area Public Schools, and the Robbinsdale Public Schools.

Hare joined the Mankato Area Public Schools team and brought with him multiple levels of teaching and leadership experiences. During his time with Mankato, Hare participated in leading the restricting of their special education programming to a strengths based case load, completed an intervention audit in partner with the Director of Teaching and Learning, and continued the district's work on merging their Early Childhood Family Education and Early Childhood Special Education with Community Education and Special Education. Hare is a continuous learner and makes decisions based on student group data and best practices. He excels in building relationships with all employees and understands that diverse perspectives are needed in making decisions.

“I strongly recommend Scott for the MASE Administrator of the Year Award. I believe he is the perfect candidate to represent your association and the special education educators across the state,” said Sheri Allen, Superintendent of the Mankato Area Public Schools. “Scott is respected in the field of education. He is involved in MASE on multiple levels and is a collaborative leader across all departments in our district.”

As an advocate for students, Hare is an active MASE and MASA member. He has served as the MASE President, Treasurer, and as the Legislative committee and Strategic Direction committee co-chairs. Hare is also a member of the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) and the Minnesota State Negotiators. In 2016, Hare was the recipient of the Inaugural Shakopee Administrator of the Year Award.

Hare received his bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire and he earned a master's degree in Special Education from the University of St. Thomas.

*MASE is a professional association organized to promote programs and services to improve the education of children with disabilities, to foster high quality programs of professional development, and to study problems relating to serving children with disabilities and improving the leadership of administrators for special education. MASE members are administrators for special education in public or private schools, cooperative regional, state and other education administrative units, college and university professors of special education teacher or administrator preparation programs, and administrators, coordinators or consultants for the Minnesota Department of Education.*

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