

Minnesota Administrators for Special Education

1884 Como Avenue • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108 • (651) 645-6272, FAX (651) 645-7518

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CONTACT: Mia Urick
Director of Professional Development
MASE
(651) 645-6272, urickm@mnasa.org

Heidi Hahn Receives New Special Education Leader Award

(St. Paul, MN) – Heidi Hahn, Director of Special Education for the Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative, has been named the 2015 New Special Education Leader by the Minnesota Administrators for Special Education (MASE). Dr. Hahn will be honored for her commitment to students with disabilities and their families and her active involvement in professional and community affairs at a statewide recognition ceremony to be held at the MASE/MASA Spring Conference, March 12-13, 2015, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

Dr. Hahn has been a special education director since 2012, serving families and students with disabilities. Although relatively new to her administrative career, Dr. Hahn is considered a role model and mentor by her peers. Dr. Hahn recently initiated a program, in collaboration with St. Cloud State University, to deliver training for Paul Bunyan Cooperative paraprofessionals to become special education teachers. Dr. Hahn has also partnered with the Minnesota Department of Education and other special education leaders to provide training and staff development within her region. As an adjunct professor at St. Cloud State University, Dr. Hahn enthusiastically teaches and supports aspiring leaders. After being named the 2014 Minnesota Association of School Administrator's (MASA) Richard Green Scholar, Dr. Hahn shared her doctoral work on the practices of educational leaders that improve job satisfaction with her peers.

In a letter of support for her nomination, Richfield Public Schools Executive Director of Special Education Mary Clarkson wrote, "MASE, as well as a vast array of educators throughout Minnesota, has benefited from Heidi's contributions to the field of education. Heidi's tireless work in supporting both children with disabilities in our schools as well as the teachers and administrators who support our children is a gift that she generously shares with all."

Dr. Hahn is an active MASE member, currently serving on multiple committees and participating in association events. Dr. Hahn holds a doctorate from St. Cloud State University in Education Administration and Leadership and bachelor's and master's degrees in Education, Health and Human development from Montana State University. She is currently serving as an adjunct faculty member at St. Cloud State University in the Education Administration program.

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 educational 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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