

Minnesota Administrators for Special Education

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News Release

For Immediate Release: March 2, 2018

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Jennifer McIntyre Receives MASE New Special Education Leader Award

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Administrators for Special Education (MASE) has named Jennifer McIntyre, Executive Director of Special Education of Bloomington Public Schools, as the recipient of the 2018 New Special Education Leader Award. McIntyre received this award for her commitment to students with disabilities and their families and her active involvement in professional and community affairs. She will be honored with the New Special Education Leader Award at a statewide recognition ceremony during the MASA/MASE Spring Conference, March 8-9, 2018, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

“Every single day with every student with disabilities, Jennifer is passionate and committed to the MASE mission of shaping policies and practices that impact the quality of education for students with disabilities,” said Jan Ormasa, MASE Retiree, in her nomination letter for McIntyre. “She is an ethical and reflective leader who strives for the highest learning standards for all students while advocating for students with disabilities.”

McIntyre has been with the Bloomington Public Schools as the Executive Director of Special Education since July 2015. During her time at the Bloomington Public Schools, she has challenged the Bloomington special educators to provide high quality instruction and to redesign and evaluate special education services and program delivery. She continually seeks out expertise that will analyze and make recommendations for systemic changes within her department. McIntyre implements the needed systemic changes in alignment with Bloomington Public Schools Vision to create Pathways to Graduation for all learners to prepare them for next level of study, to graduate and to enter college or a career with the necessary skills to be successful.

McIntyre strives for high expectations among her students while strategically creating and building the pathways, programs, services, and plans for their successful academic achievements. Using her expertise and knowledge about curriculum and instruction, McIntyre seeks to implement evidence-based instructional practices for students with disabilities. Furthermore, McIntyre strives to engage her team in providing culturally relevant and sensitive curriculum so students are able to see themselves in the knowledge and information presented for their learning. She works endlessly to connect and build relationships with each of her department members as well as with the district administrative team, teaching and learning, professional development and all areas crucial to serving students with disabilities.

“Jennifer is passionate about ensuring students are at the center of decisions while balancing her perspective as an administrator. She has proven herself to be committed, forward thinking, creative, and flexible,” said Melissa Schaller, Director of Special Education at Intermediate School District 917 in her letter of support. “Jennifer works tirelessly to create cohesive, effective teams while also developing progressive programs for students.”

McIntyre is strongly and passionately committed to MASE. She has participated in the West Metro Regional Directors meetings, the Intermediate District 287 and Intermediate District 917 regional meetings, and in legislative committee work connecting with Bloomington District legislators. McIntyre is also an active member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Division of Early Childhood – Council for Exceptional Children (DEC), Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP), and the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP).

In April 2017, McIntyre was recognized as “2017 Rising Alumni” from the University of Minnesota, College of Education and Human Development, Alumni Society Board. The Board recognizes rising alumni from across CEHD who have achieved early distinction in their careers, demonstrated emerging leadership, or shown exceptional volunteer service in their communities. Jennifer was recognized for her distinction and emerging special education director leadership as Executive Director of Special Education in Bloomington Public Schools.

McIntyre received a master's degree in Education and a post-masters graduate study in School Psychology from the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. She earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and Administrative Credentials in the Director of Special Education from the University of Minnesota.

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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