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State and National Education Leaders To Convene in State College

(Harrisburg, PA)—More than 300 elementary, middle level and secondary school principals, assistant principals, supervisors, school-related vendors and other education leaders will convene in State College, PA, for the 24th annual state conference of the Pennsylvania Principals Association to be held October 30 – November 1, 2016 at The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel. This year’s theme is “Courage to Lead.”

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“From October 30 through November 1, the premier event for principals and other educational leaders in Pennsylvania will take place at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College. Principals and school leaders from around the state will gather to listen and learn not only from each other, but from four cutting-edge keynote speakers. Eric Sheninger, Jill Jackson, Salome Thomas El and Carl Beard, Esq., will keynote this three-day event. Each day, principals find the "Courage to Lead" their schools, which is our conference theme. During National Principals Month, the principals of Pennsylvania will continue to gain the knowledge and expertise needed to lead Pennsylvania schools by attending this event. The Pennsylvania Principals Association is proud to sponsor and organize this outstanding event for principals and school leaders from around the state,” said James Orichosky, 2016 conference committee co-chairperson.

Several of the awards to be presented at the conference include the National Distinguished Principal to Joseph P. Brereton; Principal of the Year to Dr. Bill Ziegler; Outstanding Assistant Principal to Anissa A. Rosenwald; and Robert E. Lavely Assistant Principal of the Year to Nicole Cosentino. In addition, the 2016 Educational Excellence Award will be presented to Dr. Janette D. Kelly, director of graduate education, Saint Francis University, and Marshall J. Wagner, adjunct assistant professor, Saint Francis University. Both individuals are active, long-standing members of the PA Principals Association and former Pennsylvania Association of Secondary School Principals (PASSP) presidents. These awards and other recognitions will be presented during the Pennsylvania Principals Association’s 32nd annual banquet from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2016 (President’s Hall).

As part of its continuing community service and outreach efforts, the PA Principals Association will collect breakfast and other food items to support a local Student Backpack Program (partnership with a local YMCA) at its fifth annual Diamond Sponsors’ Social on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2016, following the association’s annual banquet.

In addition to over 60 vendors exhibiting their products for schools and classrooms in the Exhibit Hall (President’s Hall, Monday, Oct. 31, 2016), keynote addresses and a multitude of informational breakout sessions will be presented to attendees by three nationally known speakers as well as educators from across the commonwealth during the 2 ½-day conference. Eric Sheninger will present “Digital Leadership: Changing Paradigms for Changing Times” on Sunday, Oct. 30 from 1:30-2:45 p.m. at the First General Session (Dean’s Hall).
Education Leaders Convene

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On Monday, October 31, **Jill Jackson** will present “Get a Backbone, Principal! Five Conversations Every Principal Must Have Right Away” from 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Second General Session (Dean’s Hall). Also, speaking on Monday is **Salome Thomas-EL**, who will present “The Immortality of Influence: Leadership is About Service” from 1:30-2:45 p.m. at the Third General Session (Dean’s Hall). The NASSP Digital Principals, Dr. Bill Ziegler (PA), Jason Markey (IL) and Derek McCoy (NC), will present two sessions during the Tech Learning Labs on Monday in the Courtyard Lounge.

On Tuesday, Nov. 1 at the Pennsylvania Principals Association’s annual business meeting (8:15-9:15 a.m.), President Dr. Bill Ziegler will “pass the gavel” to **Dr. Beth A. Haldeman**, principal of Reamstown Elementary School in the Cocalico School District, making her the 2016-2018 PA Principals Association president.

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For further information, or to schedule an interview or photo, please contact **Sheri L. Thompson**, director of communications/public relations, at (717) 732-4999 or sherit@paprincipals.org.

Please see program schedule attachment for times and events. **The Legal Update Session on Tuesday is only open to PA Principals Association members.**

**About Us:** **The Pennsylvania Principals Association** is the consolidated association of the Pennsylvania Association of Elementary School Principals (PAESP) and the Pennsylvania Association of Secondary School Principals (PASSP).

- The PA Principals Association has approximately 3,800 members throughout the Commonwealth.
- The PA Principals Association membership is made up of elementary, middle level and secondary school principals, assistant principals, supervisors and other educational leaders.
- The PA Principals Association is affiliated with the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).
- The PA Principals Association’s president is Dr. William T. Ziegler, a secondary principal in the Pottsgrove School District.
- The PA Principals Association’s executive director is Paul M. Healey, Ph.D.
- The PA Principals Association assistant executive director is Dr. Joseph H. Clapper.

**The Mission of the Pennsylvania Principals Association is to ensure a quality education for every child by comprehensively supporting the educational leaders of our schools.**

**The Vision of the Pennsylvania Principals Association is to be the best service organization of its kind in the United States.**