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## Dr. Barry L. Purvis to Receive the Joseph Mamana Meritorious Service Award



**Dr. Barry L. Purvis** has been selected as the recipient of the **2023 Joseph Mamana Meritorious Service Award by the Pennsylvania Principals Association Board of Directors**. This award recognizes meritorious service

to the association, significant contributions to the professional advancement of PA principals and the personal attributes of dedication and commitment to education.

Dr. Purvis recently retired from the Pennsylvania Principals Association as the Member Outreach Representative, a position he held since 2014. In June 2014, he retired as the principal of Chambersburg Area High School (CAHS) after 35 years, where he was affectionately known as *Dr. P.*, a beloved principal, teacher and coach.

Dr. Purvis has served the PA Principals Association for many years as a Past President (2010-2011), President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Central II Regional Representative (2004-2010) and Secondary Awards Committee Chair (2004-2010). In 2006, he was selected as Pennsylvania's High School Principal of the Year.

According to Dr. Eric Eshbach, Executive Director of the PA Principals Association, "Long before I began my work at the PA Principals Association, I heard about Barry Purvis. His reputation as a fierce advocate for principals and the students they serve has been well known throughout our state for many years. When he retired from the Chambersburg Area School District, my predecessor, Paul Healey, quickly engaged Barry in working for the Association. What a great idea it

was to have Barry, someone who understood the Association and the role of the principal, come on board to coordinate outreach efforts. Barry's efforts have proven extremely effective, as he made thousands of calls to potential members, past members and those whose membership was set to expire. He ensured that they knew the benefits our organization could offer them and the potential pitfalls if they chose not to enroll. He has been a friend to public education in our commonwealth, and I am proud to say he has become a personal friend. We will certainly miss his wonderful presence in our office but are so privileged to have worked with him!"

While Dr. Purvis was principal at Chambersburg Area Middle School, they received the National Blue Ribbon School Award in 2002, and the school was a finalist for the Pennsylvania Middle School of the Year in 2003. He also coached girls' varsity basketball at Chambersburg from 1979-1996 and was selected Coach of the Year twice.

Dr. Purvis began his education career as a physical education teacher in the Chambersburg Area School District. He then became the assistant principal of the Chambersburg Area Middle School and the Chambersburg Area Senior High School. In 1996, he became the principal of the Chambersburg Area Middle School and later served as principal of the Chambersburg Area High School until his retirement. In addition, he served as an adjunct professor at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

He resides in Chambersburg with his wife, Joyce. He enjoys spending time with his children and grandchildren, attending their many sports events and other activities. However, on most days, he can be found on the golf course.