



# NEWS RELEASE

## COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

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## **Harris named 2012 Ohio Superintendent of the Year**

**COLUMBUS, OH, November, 9, 2011** — The Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) has named Columbus City Schools Superintendent, Gene T. Harris, Ph.D., the 2012 Ohio Superintendent of the Year.

According to BASA Executive Director, Kirk Hamilton, Ph.D., Harris was selected by an esteemed panel of former Ohio Superintendent of the Year awardees. The panel evaluated each nominee based on the candidate's body of work and experience, but specifically in the areas of: 1) Leadership for Learning, 2) Communication, 3) Professionalism, and 4) Community Involvement. Harris was nominated by Educational Service Center of Central Ohio Superintendent, Bart Anderson.

Anderson said, "Throughout my experiences in Central Ohio, Gene Harris is amongst the most child-centered educators I've encountered. She is more than an outstanding superintendent; she's a terrific community member, a wonderfully talented educator, and someone I was proud to nominate for this award. She's a wonderful human being."

Hamilton stated, "Gene is long-deserving of this award. During her superintendency in Columbus City Schools student achievement has increased dramatically, while at the same time, she has successfully led the district through many challenges. Her leadership and commitment not only to the students of Columbus, but to the Columbus community is truly inspiring. Columbus is indeed very fortunate to have her leading the district."

"This is one of the most special moments of my life," said Harris. "Knowing the caliber of those who have preceded me in being named with this honor, and to be recognized from a field of so many other superintendents deserving of this recognition is incredibly humbling. There is no doubt that this honor reflects the consistent and focused work of our staff, parents, and community; and the ever-present support and encouragement of my family, friends, and colleagues."

As Ohio's 2012 Superintendent of the Year, Harris' nomination will be forwarded for consideration as the American Association of School Administrators' (AASA) National Superintendent of the Year. The winner of which will be named at the Association's Annual Conference, in February.

**For more information or a copy of the completed nomination packet please contact:**

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