News Alert

Sept. 15, 2011 For Immediate Release 517.327.5907 Contact: Jennifer Rogers: 517.327.5908 or Dr. Daniel Jonker, Allendale superintendent: 616.892.5570 News Room at www.masb.org

Allendale Public Schools Board of Education honored for excellence in school governance

Lansing, MI – Allendale Public Schools Board of Education has met the rigorous requirements to be named to the distinguished list of the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Board Visionary Leadership Award winners. By design, it's extremely difficult for boards to even qualify to apply for the award, let alone actually win. Since the program's inception in 2004, only 12 districts have received the honor.

The Board Visionary Leadership Award was created to recognize boards of education/governance teams for their vision, leadership and success in raising student achievement. Entries are evaluated by independent judges against a pre-established set of criteria:

- Leadership for achievement
- Growth in student achievement
- Board development/leadership effectiveness
- Board conduct, operations and ethics
- Communications and community relations

The board of education and superintendent has demonstrated a clear and shared focus on student achievement as well as high levels of communication and collaboration. An independent judge stated, "It's very apparent that the board provides strong leadership and has used great communication practices to engage its community. This team also shows evidence that they're continuing to strive for furthering their school district's academic excellence through board development and clear policies that have a direct emphasis on their commitment to student achievement."

"The Allendale Public Schools Board of Education has demonstrated that they are truly committed to improving student achievement for all students," said Kathy Hayes, MASB executive director. "They clearly understand the importance of a strong team to effectively serve their students and communities."

Members of the 2010-11 award-winning Allendale Public Schools Board of Education team include: Dr. Daniel Jonker, superintendent; Eric Packer, president and Trustees Christopher Breen, Ron Brouwer, James E. Crawley, Scott MacDonald, Sheryl Pineiro and Meegan Zickus.

MASB provides quality educational leadership services to all Michigan boards of education, and advocates for student achievement and public education.

