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## **Press Release**

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## Worrell Named Distinguished Educator of the Year by the NC Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (NCASCD)

ASHEBORO –Dr. Terry W. Worrell, Superintendent for Asheboro City Schools was presented with the Distinguished Educator Award for 2017 by the North Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (NCASCD) at its annual conference on Thursday, February 2. The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) is the most influential learning, teaching, and leading educational association across the nation.

This prestigious award is presented to an educator who has made significant contributions to education through visionary and committed leadership. Dr. Worrell's nomination was selected because of her efforts to successfully improve academic proficiency and individual student growth while removing barriers to student success. Her nomination also noted the creative pathways designed during her tenure to ensure each student has the ability to achieve their personal best.

"I am honored and humbled by this award," said Worrell. "This recognition is a reflection of the hard work and dedication our entire school district displays each and every day. This award is accepted on behalf of the entire Asheboro City Schools community from our dynamic teachers and administrators, to our dedicated school board, and most importantly our students and families."

Dr. Worrell has served in education for more than 35 years. She was a classroom teacher in Charlotte and Greensboro, was a principal at all three levels (elementary, middle, and high school) for 17 years, and has also served in various central office positions involving innovative programs to support student success. She also served as president for the North Carolina chapter of ASCD from 2012-2013. Dr. Worrell earned her bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Chapel Hill) in Middle School Science Education, a masters degree in Human Development and Learning from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, an Education Specialist degree from Appalachian State University, and a doctorate degree from UNC-Chapel Hill.

In her third year as superintendent, Dr. Worrell's theme of "Learning doesn't end at 3:30" has become a mantra throughout the district. Asheboro City Schools has expanded learning

opportunities for students by developing after school and academic summer camps to enhance literacy and problem-solving skills. Dr. Worrell has spearheaded the district's first "Dual Language Immersion" program at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year to support bilingual, bi-literate, and bicultural learning. Most recently, Dr. Worrell unveiled the Asheboro High School Early College Academy, an innovative new partnership with Randolph Community College, the first program of its type in North Carolina.

The district is in the second semester of its new strategic plan, which includes an aggressive blueprint to support personalized learning, with data driven goals for each student in Asheboro. Part of this process includes a newly established, "Family Engagement Model" to better connect teachers and families to the instructional best practices of the school. Meetings occur between teachers and families throughout the school year and have already proven to enhance communication, family connections, and student outcomes.

Under Dr. Worrell's leadership, Asheboro High School's 2016 graduating class had the highest number of students in the history of the school achieve a four-year unweighted GPA of 4.0. The district also earned the Top 10 School District designation by the North Carolina Department of Instruction for growing its graduation rate from 86.8 percent to 92.6 percent.

## **About Asheboro City Schools**

Asheboro City Schools is a medium sized school district in North Carolina, and serves approximately 5,000 students at eight schools and one five-star Early Childhood Development Center. The district's mission is to graduate responsible citizens who are prepared to succeed in higher education or the career of their choice. For more information, visit the district's website at http://www.asheboro.k12.nc.us/

(Reporters/Editors: Please call Leigh Anna Marbert at (336) 625-5104.)

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