



**Colleen Palmer Named Superintendent of the Year  
by Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents**

*Weston Public Schools superintendent honored for leadership, fostering academic excellence*

**West Hartford, Conn. (November 20, 2015)** – The Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), a statewide nonprofit educational administration organization which represents public school superintendents, assistant superintendents and other educational leaders across the state, is pleased to announce that Colleen Palmer, the Superintendent of the Weston Public Schools, has been named Superintendent of the Year for 2016.

“It is a distinguished honor to be named as Connecticut’s 2016 Superintendent of the Year, but I share this recognition with all superintendents in the state who work tirelessly to advocate on behalf of quality education for every student,” said Palmer.

Under Palmer’s guidance, Weston High School was named the top Connecticut high school in 2015, and ranked 47<sup>th</sup> nationally by *Newsweek*.

Prior to joining Weston Public Schools as Superintendent in 2011, Palmer served three years as Superintendent of Monroe Public Schools and four years as Deputy Executive Director of the Capitol Region Education Council. She is the former Principal of Simsbury High School, Hamden High School and Nonnewaug High School.

“Colleen serves as a wonderful example for Connecticut’s superintendents,” said Joseph Cirusuolo, Ed. D., Executive Director, CAPSS. “Her continued success in education is a testament to her dedication to the improvement of public education for all students. CAPSS could not be more proud to have Colleen represent the superintendent community.”

Palmer is an elected officer of CAPSS and serves as Secretary. Prior to that, she was elected as Treasurer of the organization. Earlier this year, Palmer received an invitation from the Governor’s office to apply for the Connecticut Commissioner of Education position, and in 2014 was appointed to the Commissioner’s Roundtable as one of a select group of superintendents to advise the Commissioner on current and relevant educational topics. Palmer also serves on a number of boards and committees throughout the state, and has been widely recognized for her work in education.

In Weston, Palmer has played a critical role in ensuring students are developing the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills that will prepare them for success in college and in the workforce. She has implemented a systematic approach to

blended and personalized learning, as well as provided oversight for a partnership with Columbia University, Teachers College, designed to provide students with a global framework for readiness and achievement.

Palmer holds a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Connecticut, a Sixth Year Professional Diploma and Masters Degree from Southern Connecticut State University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics and Education from the University of Connecticut

**About The Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents:**

The Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), based in West Hartford, CT, has been the voice of superintendents of schools in Connecticut for 108 years. The mission of CAPSS is to lead the continuous improvement of public education for all students by advocating public policy for children and by developing and supporting executive school leaders. To learn more, visit [www.capss.org](http://www.capss.org).

**Media Contact:** Elyssa Millspaugh | 860.676.4400 | [emillspaugh@cocommunications.com](mailto:emillspaugh@cocommunications.com)