

PRESS RELEASE



CONTACT

Christopher Fagan, Chair, Farmington Board of Education
faganc@fpsct.org

For Immediate Release: November 15, 2019

**THE FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' SUPERINTENDENT,
KATHLEEN C. GREIDER,
NAMED CONNECTICUT'S SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR**

The Farmington Board of Education is proud to announce that Superintendent Kathleen C. Greider has been named **Connecticut's Superintendent of the Year** by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS).

Superintendent Greider has served as the Superintendent of the Farmington Public Schools since May, 2009. Over the last decade, Superintendent Greider's collaborative work with the Board of Education, administration, faculty, staff, students, and community has led to innovative improvement practices and programs aligned to Farmington's *Vision of the Graduate*, *Framework for Teaching and Learning* and *Core Beliefs*. As Superintendent, she is a tireless advocate for student-centered classroom instruction that elevates student voice and self-direction within equitable learning communities. Under her leadership and in collaboration with all members of the Farmington Public Schools, the school district has been designated a national P21 Exemplar District for innovative teaching, learning, and programming. In addition, the Farmington schools have been consistently recognized for excellence, innovative practices and high levels of achievement at the state and national levels. Recently, the Farmington school district was highlighted in the book, *The Leaders of Their Own Learning Companion* by Ron Berger, Anne Velin and Libby Woodfin for best practices in student-engaged assessments and self-directed learning. Similarly, the Farmington school district was also highlighted in a full chapter of the book, *School-Based Instructional Rounds* by Lee Teitel for the district's innovative use of instructional rounds to promote continuous and strategic improvement at the classroom, school, and district levels.

As outlined in the district's *Core Beliefs*, expectations, effort, equity, instruction, results and relationships matter in Farmington. As a result, the Farmington school district prioritizes academic excellence, equity and a strong focus on students' social and emotional well-being through a collaborative approach to continuous and strategic improvement. This is accomplished through an innovative improvement design created and enacted by all members of the school district, including students. As one of the first Connecticut school districts to develop and implement a *Vision of the Graduate* in 2010, significant shifts have occurred in curriculum,

instruction, assessment, and social and emotional learning creating a student-centered, purpose-driven, and active learning approach resulting in impressive student outcomes as well as a focus on caring, inclusive, and nurturing school and classroom learning environments.

Superintendent Greider has collaboratively forged strong relationships between the school district and the Town of Farmington. Several collaborative initiatives have resulted in the areas of school security, technology-integrated instruction, facility improvements, and joint efforts in the area of operations. Cost avoidance and efficiencies resulting from this partnership have enabled the school district to align resources directly to enhanced academic programming across all schools aligned to the school district's improvement design.

Over the past decade with Kathleen C. Greider as Superintendent, Farmington's clear and visionary improvement design has been collaboratively developed and enacted within the school district placing Farmington at the forefront of innovation and excellence as a leading school district in Connecticut and beyond.

Board Chair Chris Fagan states, "This is a wonderful day for the Farmington community and Superintendent Greider. This recognition not only pays tribute to her entire career as an educator, but also to her talent and vision as a leader of the district where tangible results in student achievement are being noticed and valued throughout the State of Connecticut. Superintendent Greider exemplifies professionalism, collaboration, relationship building, community engagement, inclusivity, and equity in education and she is driven to ensure that all students in Farmington reach high levels of academic and personal excellence. Farmington is always refining and gaining insights into what we can do better and for that to happen we need a visionary leader to ensure that our evolution is both authentic and has a lasting impact both today and in the future. Superintendent Greider's vision and dedication to the students and families of the community is unmatched and she embodies the Board's aspiration and commitment to providing students with continuous opportunities for achieving academic excellence, developing meaningful relationships and becoming future ready. The award comes at an appropriate time of the year, where Farmington can rightfully give thanks to Superintendent Greider for all she does for the students and families of our community."

Fran Rabinowitz, CAPSS Executive Director states, "Superintendent Greider is a genuinely wonderful leader who consistently focuses on "we." It is always about the team. She is a recognized educational leader in Connecticut who shares her insights and advice with all of her colleagues. Connecticut's students, teachers, and leaders have deeply benefited from her collaborative and innovative work in Farmington, Greenwich and Hartford."

Upon receiving the award Superintendent Greider commented, "I am humbled and deeply honored to represent all members of the Farmington Public Schools as well as Connecticut's public school leaders as the 2019-2020 Superintendent of the Year. I share this honor with the

many colleagues, Board members, students, and community members in Farmington with whom I am so privileged to collaborate each day. It is their hard work, expertise, partnership, and commitment that make this recognition possible. In Farmington, we partner with students and families to create nurturing and active learning environments with a homegrown student-centered instructional model aligned directly to our *Core Beliefs* and *Vision of the Graduate*. As a result, Farmington students lead the way as pioneers, scholars, contributors and civic-minded citizens who strive to make an impact on their local, regional and world communities today and in the future. I share this recognition with the entire Farmington school district and I express my deepest admiration and gratitude to the faculty, staff, administration, Board of Education, students, families, and community of Farmington.”

Prior to her role as Superintendent of the Farmington Public Schools, Superintendent Greider served as the Deputy Superintendent of the Greenwich Public Schools in Greenwich, Connecticut. Prior to that, she served as Lead Principal for the Hartford Public Schools following her tenure as Principal of Dwight Elementary School. Dwight Elementary School received national recognition for significantly raising student achievement outcomes during her time as Principal. Superintendent Greider began her career as an elementary teacher and reading teacher in the Hartford Public Schools.

