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Former Pendleton County Assistant Superintendent Named Kentucky's School Administrator of the Year

(FRANKFORT, Ky.—) Amy Razor, former assistant superintendent for Pendleton County Schools, was named the 2015 Kentucky School Administrator of the Year for district-level administrators.

Awarded by the Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA), the announcement was made Wednesday, July 15 at the KASA Annual Leadership Institute in Louisville, the state's largest gathering of school administrators each year.

The Administrator of the Year Award recognizes one building level and one district level school administrator who has made outstanding educational contributions in Kentucky's public schools through exceptional leadership and service to the association. Winners are chosen by a statewide blue ribbon judging panel.

Razor is known for her laser-like focus on student growth. With a background and passion for early childhood learning, she created the Whiz Kids program, providing tutoring and mentoring to students in need, in addition to meals for the families involved. Razor is also known for her work with service learning, and was awarded the National Service Learning Award during her tenure as principal at Grant's Lick Elementary in Campbell County Schools, which was recognized as one of 10 model schools in the nation. During that time, she helped grow the school's overall K-PREP score over 30 points in five years.

Razor is also recognized for spearheading the Early Childhood Forum, an initiative designed to incite a grassroots, community ownership of early childhood education. At least three other school districts are now implementing this model.

"Leadership is an often thankless role. Great administrators must make difficult decisions and have relentless focus on the organization's mission and focus...Mrs. Razor has demonstrated a remarkable ability to remain focused, make extremely difficult decisions, and hold high expectations," Superintendent Anthony Strong, Ed.D. wrote in a letter of recommendation.

Razor has over 25 years of experience in education, having served as interim director of an early childhood center, teacher, adjunct professor, district-wide instructional coach, principal, assistant principal, and assistant superintendent. She has also served on various state and national committees and presented her work at various conferences, including the International Counselors Conference, Kentucky School Boards Association, and the Kentucky Association of School Administrators.

Razor was recently selected as the executive director for the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Education Services. She started in her new role after the 2014-15 school year.

"This kind of energy does more than raise test scores and create programs. It is fuel for the cause of educating *all* children. It is the ember for a wildfire that rallies the whole community in caring for kids. And, it inspires that selfless devotion that many, many educators share with her as they work elbow to elbow with her, district by district and county by county. We are truly honored to recognize Amy's work, and we are eager to watch what else she will do in the future," Deputy Director Rhonda Caldwell said.

KASA is the largest school administrator group in Kentucky, representing more than 3,000 education leaders from across the commonwealth. Formed in 1969, KASA connects education leaders to policymakers, legislators, and other interest groups, and provides numerous benefits and services to Kentucky's school administrators.



Amy Razor is the recipient of the Kentucky School Administrator of the Year Award (district level).

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