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NEWS RELEASE

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Large Turnout Expected for Annual State School Administrators Event

(Frankfort, Ky.—) Kentucky's largest organized group of public school leaders will converge in Louisville July 15-17 for the Kentucky Association of School Administrators' 47th Annual Leadership Institute.

Attendance is expected to be higher than any of its previous meetings due to a number of changes driving Kentucky's public schools.

As Kentucky's school administrators prepare for the 2015-16 school year, they face challenges in bullying and school safety; adjusting to new teacher and administrator evaluation systems; preparing students for a competitive, 21st century workforce; project-based learning; and implementing new technology in the classroom.

"This event is one of the most beneficial things an administrator can do for self improvement! It is loaded with unbelievable opportunities to expand our knowledge base, network with other administrators and recharge our batteries for the coming year," Camp Dick Robinson Elementary Principal and Institute Planning Committee Chair Scott Bolin said.

The KASA Annual Leadership Institute will address pertinent challenges in education and provide access to new tools and research. This year's theme, *Trifecta Leadership*, will focus on three strands of leadership development: Learning, Leading, and Living. The event will feature nationally and internationally acclaimed speakers such as:



Dr. Elle T. Allison-Napolitano

Dr. Elle T. Allison-Napolitano, Founder of Wisdom Out and Author of *Bounce Forward: The Extraordinary Resilience of Leadership*, specializes in leadership development and organizational learning. Dr. Allison works with leaders, aspiring leaders, senior leadership teams, school teams and leadership coaches, to teach them the strategies, practices and tools

they need to increase their organization's capacity for sustainable change.

Dr. Allison has been a teacher, principal, supervisor of school improvement, assistant superintendent,

educational consultant and leadership coach. She earned her PhD. in organizational learning, from the University of New Mexico. She is a graduate of the National Staff Development's Council's Academy and is a member of the National Speaker's Association. She is author of several books and articles on leadership renewal and resilience and on leadership coaching, including *Flywheel*, published by Corwin in 2013.

Jodee Blanco is one of the nation's pre-eminent authorities on school bullying. The voice of America's bullied students, Blanco is a former victim who has dedicated her life to transforming her pain into purpose. When the media want to understand what's at the true core of tragedies like the Phoebe Prince suicide or the Columbine shooting, they often turn to Jodee because they know her insight comes from a place of deep personal experience, one that only a survivor turned activist, who now works with tens of thousands of other lonely, misunderstood children, can know.



Jodee Blanco

Dan Clark is described as "a master motivator with an extraordinary intellect." Clark is president and CEO of Clark Success Systems, a *New York Times* best selling author, award-winning athlete, university professor, adventurer, journalist, gold record songwriter/recording artist, philanthropist, and one of the most sought after speakers on the platform!



Dan Clark

A primary contributor to the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series, Clark is leading an international movement to teach leaders and organizations how to transform themselves from successful to significance. Dan teaches that individuals and organizations who achieve significance seek to become more of who they already are, have an obsession with what's important, focus on purposes instead of just setting goals, and want what they get.



Dr. Terry Holliday

Dr. Terry Holliday was selected as Kentucky's fifth commissioner of education in July 2009. He currently serves as the president of the board of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). In 2013, Holliday was appointed to serve a three-year term on the Board of Overseers of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. In 2011, he was appointed to serve a four-year term in the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), known as the Nation's Report Card. He is the co-author of *Running All the Red Lights: A Journey of System-Wide Education Reform*. Dr. Holliday is retiring August 31, 2015, following a 43-year career in public education.



Principal Kafele

Principal Kafele led the transformation of four different urban New Jersey schools, including "The Mighty Newark Tech," which went from a low-performing school in need of improvement to one of national acclaim, which included *U.S. News and World Report Magazine* recognizing it as one of America's best high schools. An internationally-renowned education speaker and consultant, Kafele is one of the most sought-after speakers for transforming the attitudes of at-risk student populations in America. Kafele is an elementary school teacher in East Orange, NJ, where he was selected as the East Orange School District and Essex County Public Schools Teacher of the Year.



Gene Kerns, Ed.D.

Gene M. Kerns, Ed.D. is a third-generation educator with teaching experience from elementary through the university level, in addition to K12 administrative experience. He is currently chief academic officer for Renaissance Learning. He has a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Longwood College in Virginia and a doctor of education

degree from the University of Delaware. *Informative Assessment: When It's Not About a Grade* is his first publication.

Jason Kotecki, known as "The Champion of Childhood," is an internationally recognized professional speaker, artist and author of five books that impact people all over the globe. Through his inspirational thought leadership and humorous anecdotes, his mission is to demonstrate how the secrets of childhood are timeless.

He travels the world empowering organizations and individuals to reinvigorate their energy, restore balance and achieve new levels of productivity.



Jason Kotecki

"Kentucky's school leaders from Paducah to Pikeville tell us this is the single most valuable comprehensive leadership development opportunity of the year. Our leaders are under intense demands, and time is a valuable commodity. Yet, attendees tell us year after year that time spent at this event produces results in leadership that directly affect their students. We are proud that over 1,100 school administrators statewide choose to make the time, find the funds, and block out other demands for the premier event specifically designed for all school administrators," KASA Deputy Director Rhonda Caldwell said.

Registration is still open at www.kasa.org. The institute has been approved for up to 16 hours of EILA/ Finance Officer credit.

The Kentucky Association of School Administrators is the largest school administrators 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.

“ I attend the KASA Leadership Institute every summer with the hope of learning something that I can take back to implement in my building for the new school year. I am never disappointed! I always make new connections, find more resources and gain more valuable knowledge that helps me to become a better administrator for our students and staff. I wouldn't miss this institute for anything! ”

– Contessa Orr, Todd County Schools

Full list of featured presenters and more info about awards and activities at www.kasa.org!