

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Michael Chamness
(217) 753-2213/(217) 836-5019 (cell)

Tinley Park's Stawick honored as 'Superintendent of Distinction'

Tinley Park Superintendent Jeff Stawick was honored as a regional "Superintendent of Distinction" at an awards luncheon Tuesday (April 21) at the governor's Executive Mansion in Springfield. Stawick was selected by his peers in the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) South Cook Region.

"I am particularly honored by my selection because I have always been in awe of the quality of our colleagues in the South Cook Region. I feel as though they have raised me in the profession, and I largely attribute any success to them," said Stawick, who has been an educator for 19 years, the last four as superintendent of Community Consolidated School District 146 in Tinley Park.

Stawick said teamwork has been a key ingredient in the school district's success.

"Board members are actively engaged in visioning for the district's future, and we are celebrating amazing relationships with our union partners with a focus on growing together professionally," he said.

Stawick was one of 20 school superintendents from around the state to be recognized as a "Superintendent of Distinction." Governor Bruce Rauner and IASA Executive Director Brent Clark were among those taking part in the awards ceremony.

"Public education is facing some of its most difficult times, and that is when leadership is most important. These 'Superintendents of Distinction' were selected by their peers in their regions because of the dedication, commitment and leadership that they have demonstrated, and we are pleased to recognize them for what they do to fulfill the promise of public education for children all over the state," Clark said.

Stawick attained his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Illinois, his Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Governors State University, and his Doctor of Education Degree from DePaul University. He served as a teacher, band director, assistant principal and principal before becoming a superintendent in Steger in 2007. He became superintendent of District 146 in Tinley Park in 2011.

At the Tinley Park district, Stawick has helped implement an environment of collaborative learning and decision-making, and he has emphasized that with the infusion of technology there needs to be a transformation of teaching and learning.

Stawick and his wife, Jennifer, have two sons, Jackson and Jacob.

The awards and luncheon were sponsored by Horace Mann, one of the nation's largest insurers focusing on educators' needs, and Herff Jones, one of the largest suppliers of class rings, yearbooks and graduation caps, gowns and announcements.

"Superintendents face many challenges. From balancing budgets to keeping schools and students safe, they work to put the needs of students first and consistently work to find, nurture and support quality teachers," said Marita Zuraitis, Horace Mann President and Chief Executive Officer. "Their efforts make their schools outstanding learning environments, and that excellence is what the IASA is celebrating. Horace Mann is proud to recognize and applaud the IASA 'Superintendents of Distinction.' "

"Herff Jones celebrates the educational leaders who are being recognized today for promoting and encouraging excellence in their schools," said Sales Representative Elizabeth Elsner. "Thank you for educating our children."