

Jay Haugen is MASA's 2009 Richard Green Scholar

The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) has named Mr. Jay Haugen, Superintendent of the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Schools, as its 2009 Richard Green Scholar. Mr. Haugen presented his research, "Clear Goals and Transparent Accountability: A Public Campaign for School Improvement" on Tuesday, September 29 at MASA's annual statewide convention of school administrators.

MASA, with the support of Cuningham Group Architecture, established the Richard Green Scholars Program in 2006 to honor the scholarly work and professional development of Minnesota school leaders.

The program is an annual recognition of the research, writing, and presentation of a paper reflecting the practice of excellent school leadership. Scholar candidates apply for the program and a subcommittee of the MASA Executive Development Committee selects the recipient. "This is a great honor," says Mr. Haugen, "I look forward to sharing with my colleagues the work we have done, increasing our capacity to change by engaging our community. For if your community knows, understands, values and desires the change you seek, change becomes not a hard thing to do, but the only thing you can do."

Former recipients are:

2006: Dr. Diane J. Rauschenfels, Superintendent, Proctor Schools, for her research, "Promoting Ethical Educational Leadership."

2007: Dr. Mark Wolak, Superintendent, Mahtomedi Schools, for his study, "Advancing Professional Practice for School Superintendents: Linking Effective Research with Effective Implementation."

2008: Dr. Karen Orcutt, Superintendent, Orono Schools, for her research "Characteristics of Resiliency in Leadership: Implications for Personal and Organizational Coping and Adapting Abilities."

"MASA members value life-long learning," says MASA Executive Director Charlie Kyte, "and a critical focus for us as a professional association is the promotion of personal and professional development. Our goal is to support a professional learning community that inspires critical thinking and assessment of practice, and to recognize the importance of collegial relationships in professional development."

The Richard Green Scholars Program was named to honor former Minneapolis Superintendent Richard R. Green, who modeled innovation and distinction in the child-centered practice of exemplary school leadership.

The program is sponsored by MASA's business partner member, Cuningham Group Architecture. "The Richard Green Scholarship provides a great opportunity for school leaders to explore the role of leadership in the public realm," says Cuningham President Tim Dufault. "This scholarly research is changing how we lead our schools, creating a new generation of effective leaders and giving them new tools to lead their communities. Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A., is proud to sponsor this valuable program, giving Minnesota school leaders the opportunity to build their capacity as stewards of public resources and, most importantly, our children."

Information about the scholars program and copies of the research papers are available online at <http://www.mnasa.org/RGreenScholar.htm>.