

News Release

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Harrison School District leader named Colorado Assistant Principal of the Year for secondary schools

Englewood, November 20, 2014 – Angela Prochnow, Assistant Principal of Sierra High School in Harrison School District 2, has been named the 2015 Colorado Assistant Principal of the Year for secondary schools by the Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) and will represent Colorado in the National Assistant Principal of the Year award program.

An educator for over 14 years, Prochnow has been assistant principal at Sierra High School since 2010. Her personal philosophy of engaging instruction and creating a culture of high expectations has resulted in great opportunities for students. Prochnow’s leadership in creating the Freshman Academy is cited as the reason that 40 percentage points were gained in one year on state assessments by Sierra students. She credits the strategic interventions, emphasis on engagement, and implementation of blended learning for these gains. In addition to this, her work with the master schedule not only increased the number of Advanced Placement classes being offered but allowed competing dual enrollment programs to coexist. This allows students to maximize the number of college credits each individual student can earn while in high school.

“I am of course thrilled,” stated Harrison School District 2 Superintendent Andre Spencer. “Ms. Prochnow is a wonderful assistant principal and her work with the 9th grade academy at Sierra High School has been superb!”

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When asked what this honor means to her, Prochnow exclaimed "I am honored to accept this award on behalf of the hard working and dedicated students, staff, and educators at Sierra High School. We have gone through a lot of transition in the past few years and it is encouraging that some of the innovative techniques and interventions we implemented made a positive impact. I can only hope to continue to lead such positive change." Sierra High School is located in Colorado Springs and is part of Harrison School District 2. With a student population of 860, there are 52 full time teachers who work with Prochnow to serve a diverse student body.

Prochnow was selected for this honor by her peers through a rigorous and competitive process facilitated by the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals (CASSP), a department of CASE and affiliate of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). The National Assistant Principal of the Year program is sponsored by NASSP.

"Principal leadership is second only to strong instruction when it comes to impacting student achievement," stated CASE Executive Director Bruce Caughey. "CASE is thrilled to recognize Ms. Prochnow's leadership at Sierra High School and to shine a light on the wonderful work of this Colorado education leader who is directly impacting and positively influencing high school students as they prepare to graduate."

The award recognizes outstanding middle level and high school assistant principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession. The selection criteria emphasize personal excellence; collaborative leadership; leadership in curriculum, instruction and assessment; and, personalization for student learning.

CASE and CAESP will formally present Prochnow with her award at an upcoming school event. She and other CASE award winners also will be recognized at an awards ceremony this spring, as well as at the 46th Annual CASE Education Leadership Convention this summer in Breckenridge. As Colorado's Assistant Principal of the Year for secondary schools, Prochnow will be honored, along with other state winners, in Washington, D.C. this spring.

The Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) is the preeminent professional association for public school administrators in Colorado. CASE empowers Colorado education leaders through advocacy, professional learning and networking in order to deliver on the promise of public education.

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