

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
RECOGNITION**

HCPS EDUCATOR HALL OF FAME

DEBORAH J. HEIBERGER

November 21, 2011

Background Information:

In October 2000, the Harford County Public School System began an Educator Hall of Fame program, in which the Board of Education of Harford County inducts one member into the "Hall" each month during the school year. Former Harford County Public Schools educators who have provided at least 20 years of extraordinary service to students and staff in the school system are considered for nomination by the Harford County Retired School Personnel Association (HCRSPA). The nominee is prominently featured on the Harford County Public Schools website, www.hcps.org. The nominee (or his/her family in case the nominee is deceased or unavailable) is also honored at a subsequent Board of Education meeting where he/she is presented with a plaque, as well as a Board certificate and certificates from County and State government officials.

Discussion:

Deborah J. Heiberger, Ed.D. was born and raised in Harford County, Maryland. She graduated from Towson University in 1971 with a Bachelor in Science in Elementary Education. Following her graduation, she taught in southern Maryland for two years before returning to Harford County to teach in her home school system. She furthered her education by earning her Master of Education in Administration/Supervision from the University of Maryland in 1975, and in 1986, she received her Doctorate of Education. In addition, she completed 36 additional credits in curriculum, instruction and assessment.

Ms. Heiberger devoted 28 outstanding years of selfless dedication to students, faculty, staff and the community of Harford County Public Schools (HCPS). She taught at Youth's Benefit Elementary School before taking on the roles of assistant principal at Edgewood, William Paca/Old Post Road, Hall's Cross Roads, North Harford, Forest Hill and Youth's Benefit elementary schools. Then, she served as principal of Jarrettsville Elementary School before making the move from the school building to central office as supervisor of curriculum. She was quickly promoted to executive director for curriculum and instruction and then to assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. She remained in that capacity until her retirement from HCPS in 2002. Ms. Heiberger had an unwavering focus on values, integrity and credibility in the job. She made significant contributions to the Harford County K-12 educational program that is recognized across the state for excellence and outstanding student achievement.

Throughout her career, Ms. Heiberger was actively involved in National Kids Voting Educator of the Year, Maryland Gifted and Talented Administrator of the Year and Student Service Learning Top Team, among many other committees and professional organizations and

associations. She humbly accepted National Educator of the Year from Kids Voting USA in 1994 and Maryland Gifted and Talented Education Local Administrator of the Year in 2000.

Ms. Heiberger currently works with the Arizona Department of Education as a professional preparation program approval specialist.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education of Harford County induct Deborah J. Heiberger, Ed.D. into the HCPS Educator Hall of Fame as its 164th member in recognition of her 28 years of extraordinary service to the students, staff and community of the Harford County Public Schools as a teacher and administrator.