



Harford County Public Schools

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HCPS mourns loss of Superintendent Haas

Harford County Public School Superintendent Dr. Jacqueline C. Haas died suddenly on Tuesday, December 30th, due to complications with asthma.

Dr. Haas is a 36-year educator, having spent much of her career in general education, as well as working with severely and profoundly handicapped children. A graduate of the University of Delaware with a Master's degree from Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Haas earned her doctoral degree from the University of Maryland.

Humbly accepting many honors and awards throughout her 11-year tenure as Superintendent, Dr. Haas was named Maryland Superintendent of the Year for the 2008 school year by the Public Schools Superintendents Association of Maryland. She was highly respected and admired by her peers throughout the state of Maryland and the country, earning Harford County Public Schools and colleagues many accolades and recognition through her leadership and efforts.

She taught in Harford public schools for 13 years before becoming an Assistant Principal at Prospect Mill Elementary in 1990. She served as principal at Edgewood Elementary School for five years and was promoted to be Assistant Superintendent for Education Services in July 1997. Dr. Haas was named Interim Superintendent of Harford's public schools by the Board of Education of Harford County on March 16, 1998 and was reappointed for the 1998-99 school year on June 8, 1998.

In July 1999, the Board unanimously appointed Dr. Haas for her first full four-year term as Superintendent. She has subsequently been reappointed for two additional four-year terms. On July 1, 2007 she began her third four-year term.

Dr. Haas was a woman of extraordinary achievement whose dedication to students was evident in every decision she made. She cared deeply about every employee and had high expectations for both students and staff. Her enthusiasm for learning was contagious and she touched everyone she came in contact with. Dr. Haas' legacy of leadership and commitment to students will endure.

She leaves behind not only her husband Jim, a retired Harford County Public School Special Education and Social Studies teacher, their two sons, Rob, who is a 1999 graduate of Aberdeen High School, and Steven, a 2003 graduate of Harford Technical High School, but thousands of former students and colleagues that remember her humble leadership, dedication, and boundless enthusiasm for education.

A public viewing will be held Saturday, January 3rd from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Tarring-Cargo Funeral Home on 333 S. Parke Street in Aberdeen. A family memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 4th at 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Aberdeen. HCPS is planning a school system memorial service to be held Wednesday, January 7th, time and location to be determined. In addition to flowers, donations may be made to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.

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