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New Deputy Superintendent Appointed to the Pittsburgh Public Schools

Breadth of Educational Experience Aligns with District's Focus on Implementing New Academic Initiatives and Building Strong Accountability

PITTSBURGH, December 13, 2006 – This evening the Board appointed Dr. Linda Lane as the new Deputy Superintendent for Instruction, Assessment and Accountability effective January 16, 2007.

"I look forward to Linda joining my leadership team as the top academic officer," said Superintendent Mark Roosevelt. "She is a thoughtful and deliberate person, who cares deeply about advancing the achievement of all children at every level, and knows how to create the accountability measures for making it happen."

A lifelong educator, Dr. Lane will be moving to Pittsburgh from Des Moines, Iowa where she currently is the Deputy Superintendent for the Des Moines Public Schools, a district of 64 schools and 32,500 students. Having previously held various positions at the central office in Des Moines, Dr. Lane brings a breadth of experience to her new position in Pittsburgh. She was the first female and minority to serve as Des Moines' Chief Operating Officer, overseeing human resources, business operations, finance, transportation and facilities. Prior to that, she served as the Executive Director of Human Resources, spearheading efforts to improve services to staff and increase organizational efficiency.

In her role as Deputy, Dr. Lane introduced an accountability model that had not existed before. She instituted a process involving parental input for the creation of comprehensive school improvement plans for every school, regardless of their level of performance. Accountability was fostered by maintaining a consistent schedule of face-to-face conferences with principals and their leadership teams to review data and progress against targets. The Des Moines district is seeing progress in student achievement, particularly in math. For example, the class of 2013 had a proficiency rating of 59.1% as 3rd graders and of 73.5% as 5th graders. The class of 2010 had a proficiency rating of 56.9% as 5th graders and of 61% as 8th graders.

Dr. Lane began her career as an elementary teacher in the Iowa City and Des Moines Public Schools. She holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and a Master of Science in School Administration from Drake University, and received her Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Iowa. Dr. Lane also is a graduate of the Broad Superintendents Academy, an intensive executive management program designed to prepare traditional and non-traditional professionals to lead urban public school systems. Throughout her career, she has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the most recent from the NAACP: the 2006 President's Award for Community Improvement. Dr. Lane is married and has two grown children.

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