



## FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

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CONTACT:

Robert Runcie, President  
Florida Association of District School Superintendents  
850.577.5784

### **Pinellas County Schools Superintendent Dr. Michael Grego Named 2018 Florida Superintendent of the Year**

Tampa, FL – Pinellas County Public Schools (PCPS) Superintendent Dr. Michael “Mike” Grego was selected as Florida’s 2018 Superintendent of the Year by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS). Grego was formally recognized today in Tampa during the joint meeting of FADSS and the Florida School Boards Association.

“I have known Mike for over 21 years and he is still one of the most passionate, yet fierce, advocates for public education and student achievement that I have known during my 45+ years in public education,” states FADSS CEO and Florida Senator Bill Montford. “His intellect combined with his commitment to always putting students first is no doubt the cornerstone of his profound leadership, which routinely yields exceptional results that truly impact the lives of students,” adds Montford.

Dr. Grego has been a central figure in Florida’s public education landscape spanning more than 35 years. He began his career as a classroom teacher with Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS) where he quickly rose through the ranks holding numerous positions, culminating in Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. After 28 years with Hillsborough County Schools, Grego was selected as Superintendent of the Osceola County school district. There, he was credited with dramatic academic improvements, especially among minority students. He then served as Florida’s Interim Chancellor of K-12 Education. Prior to joining PCPS, Dr. Grego joined the Educational Leadership faculty at the University of Central Florida, where he was an Associate Professor, teaching graduate and doctoral level courses.

“Mike leads with compassion and conviction, driven by a work ethic grounded in servant leadership and a commitment to educational excellence,” states FADSS President and Broward County Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie. “His philosophy that the work of a superintendent and public educators ‘has to be done as if there is no tomorrow because we only get one chance with these kids’, clearly exemplifies his dedication to public education,” adds Runcie.

Under Grego's leadership at PCPS, an aggressive strategic plan – Bridging the Gap (BTG) – was implemented utilizing innovative strategies to successfully narrow the achievement gap in Pinellas County Public Schools. The Bridging the Gap (BTG) Plan was a long-term commitment to reduce achievement gaps across the district in all schools and focuses on six key areas: Graduation Rate, Student Achievement, Advanced Coursework, Student Discipline, ESE Identification, and Minority Hiring.

The process for electing Florida's Superintendent of the Year was established by the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), a national organization of school superintendents and other educational leaders. In February 2018, Grego will represent all Florida superintendents at the AASA's National Education Conference in Nashville, Tennessee where he will be recognized and honored for his outstanding public education service in Florida.

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**Pinellas County Public Schools (PCPS) is the seventh largest district in Florida and the 26th largest in the nation. PCPS has a minority population of more than 44 percent, offers families a wealth of educational choices and a growing list of choice programs focused on students' interests, talents and abilities. Pinellas is accredited by AdvancED and employs nearly 16,000 people. Pinellas is a leader in career and technical education and was named a Ford Next Generation Learning Model Community, a milestone designation for preparing high school students for success in college, career and life. Our district serves students in prekindergarten through 12th grade, and our technical colleges offer adult students opportunities for career training and industry certifications.**

**Photo caption (l to r): Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) President and Broward County Superintendent Robert Runcie (left) and FADSS Chief Executive Officer Bill Montford (right) present the 2018 Superintendent of the Year Award to Pinellas County Public Schools Superintendent Mike Grego.**

*The mission of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents is to assist and support superintendents in providing leadership to ensure that every student in Florida acquires the skills, knowledge and attitude to be contributing members of our democratic society through leadership development programs focused on student achievement, building relationships with business and governmental leaders, and communication and networking services.*