



For Immediate Release:

Monday, July 17

Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) Honors Dr. Alexandra Estrella, Superintendent of Norwalk Public Schools, with Administrator's Award

The Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) recently presented Dr. Alexandra Estrella, superintendent of Norwalk Public Schools, with this year's prestigious Administrator's Award. The award recognizes an administrator who has demonstrated exceptional support for improving media services within their school/district. The award acknowledges the recipient's dedication to providing encouragement and adequate funding for program success and advancement.

"The CASL Administrator's Award is a testament to the outstanding leadership and unwavering support this administrator has provided to their school library program," said Melissa Thom, President of CASL. "Their commitment to fostering a dynamic and impactful personalized learning environment for students and providing the necessary resources has made a significant impact on the educational journey of countless students. We are delighted to honor them for their exceptional dedication."

The CASL Administrator's Award was presented to Estrella during CASL's "Spring Fling" Awards banquet at Elizabeth's Restaurant in Rocky Hill. Estrella was nominated for the award by Willette (Lynn) Payton, coordinator of digital learning for Norwalk Public Schools.

"I would not be deserving of this award without the incredible work of Lynn and her team of library media specialists in Norwalk Public Schools, whose responsibilities have changed considerably over the last decade as we transitioned away from school libraries filled with physical books to learning spaces with a greater focus on introducing students to digital resources," Estrella said.

She continued, "Even with the dramatic shifts, school libraries remain a place where our children can explore a great treasure trove of knowledge, find a sanctuary for their curious minds, and enter a gateway to boundless imagination. Our library media



specialists play an important role, being their guide to find a love of reading, to be safe when exploring digital resources, and to never stop learning.”

For more information about CASL and the Administrator's Award, please visit the CASL website at <https://casl.wildapricot.org/>

About CASL:

The Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) is a professional organization dedicated to promoting excellence in school library media programs and school libraries throughout Connecticut. CASL advocates for strong school library media programs that meet the needs of the entire school community and provide a foundation for lifelong learning. CASL recognizes members with awards and grants for outstanding programs that demonstrate creativity, collaboration, and integration into the school's curriculum.