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Press Release

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DCSD Home to Colorado High School Principal of the Year

The Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) selected Dr. Christopher Page of Highlands Ranch High School as the 2023 Colorado High School Principal of the Year. Dr. Page was selected for this honor by the National Association of Secondary School Principal Selection Committee through a competitive process.

Dr. Page has served as the HRHS principal for eight years, with a total of eleven years in administration. Throughout his time as a school leader, Dr. Page has intentionally cultivated a positive and encouraging environment for both students and staff, in which all members of the school community feel safe raising their ideas and concerns. Chief among his goals as principal has been instilling a culture that encourages staff to dialogue openly about school issues and to challenge the status quo or proposed solution.

“Dr. Page embraces the importance of inclusive, direct stakeholder connections in a safe, supportive environment,” said HRHS Teacher Caitlin Filleman. “[He] is a hands-on leader who positively interacts with people of all ages and backgrounds, and listens to leaders in a collaborative manner.”

Further illustrative of his value for working together to create a positive school community is Dr. Page’s rollout of a new tagline for the school. He introduced the phrase “ALL IN” as a call to action for students to take pride in their school and learning, and to invest in their fellow classmates. Working alongside student leaders and soliciting the involvement of as many other students as possible, Dr. Page has helped identify areas that students want to address within the school.

Working alongside student leaders and soliciting the involvement of as many other students as possible, Dr. Page has helped to identify areas that students want to address within the school. These efforts have led to professional development offerings on topics such as equity and diversity, as well as differentiated instruction based on student needs. Students have helped deliver these presentations, further adding to their sense of buy-in and pride in the school.

Another hallmark of Dr. Page’s leadership has been in the area of equity. Several years ago, he co-founded and chaired DCSD’s first-ever Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility Committee. The committee dug into district data and policies and produced recommendations for increasing equitable practices and training, diversity in thoughts and

actions, and inclusion and accessibility for all learners. Out of this work the district's first equity policy, which represented input and involvement from more than 3,000 DCSD stakeholders, Dr. Page was the co-chair for the project.

His leadership in this area is noticed and deeply appreciated by students, staff, and families. Said one parent, "Dr. Page sits on more committees than I can say so that he can be a voice for those that don't have one. He has taught me that equity isn't just a policy, it's embedded in every minute of our day."

"When I found out I was selected for High School Principal of the Year, I had an overwhelming joy in my heart," said Dr. Page. "I am so proud to be the principal of Highlands Ranch High School, and this recognition is an acknowledgment of all the amazing accomplishments our students, staff, and community have been able to achieve over the years. There are so many amazing educators and leaders throughout the state of Colorado, and I am definitely humbled to be chosen for this recognition."

"The culture at 'THE Highlands Ranch High School' as Dr. Page calls it, is a true family environment," said DCSD Superintendent Erin Kane. "He is incredibly committed to his students, staff, and families, and is someone we can count on, from the district level, to lend his voice to make our amazing school district an even better place to work and learn. We thank him for his service to the students and staff of the Douglas County School District and congratulate him on this great honor."

Dr. Page will represent Colorado and be considered for the National Secondary School Principal of the Year Award, along with contenders from all other states. CASE will celebrate Dr. Page and other award honorees in late April at the 2023 CASE Awards Reception.

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About DCSD

Douglas County School District is Colorado's third largest school district and serves 63,000 students. Learn more at www.dcsdk12.org.