



Center Grove Community School Corporation

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Trael Kelly Named District 9 Elementary Principal of the Year

GREENWOOD, IN (May 4, 2021) – The Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) has chosen Trael Kelly, principal of Pleasant Grove Elementary School, as its 2021 District 9 Elementary Principal of the Year.

Kelly has led Pleasant Grove Elementary since 2008. Before moving to Pleasant Grove, he served as an assistant principal and dean at Center Grove High School for seven years. Prior to Center Grove, Kelly served as a special education teacher at Pike High School in Pike Township Schools. This is his 26th year as an educator.

"Trael Kelly is a one of the most caring and compassionate leaders I have ever known," said Dr. Rich Arkanoff, superintendent. "He truly knows his staff and students and cares for all of them. Trael has high expectations for all. He is the type of leader that will do whatever it takes to ensure everyone has what they need to be successful. We are truly blessed to have such a compassionate and dedicated leader at PGES."

"I am honored to be recognized as Principal of the Year. My colleagues and staff provide me with inspiration and motivation to continue my pursuit of making a difference in the life of someone each day," said Kelly. "I am humbled to work in a wonderful community that has welcomed me and accepted me for the last 20 years. Serving children and watching them grow into successful adults has fueled and fed my heart for years. I have been blessed to work with amazing families, a staff that has become a second family to me. I also have an amazing wife, Christine, and three children, Cooper, Quinn, and Cade, who understand the time I must commit to fulfill my mission in life – Serving Children."

Kelly will be recognized on Sunday, November 21, 2021 as part of the 2021 Principals of the Year Recognition Celebration, during the IASP's annual Fall Professional Conference. District Elementary Principals of the Year are elected by their peers. One principal is honored from each of the 12 districts.

District 9 is located in south central Indiana and is made up of Bartholomew, Brown, Jackson, Johnson, Lawrence, Monroe, and Morgan Counties. From these 12 District Elementary Principal winners, one is chosen as the 2021 State Elementary Principal of the Year. The State winner will be announced at the award celebration. The Indiana Association of School Principals is a not-for-profit, professional association serving more than 2,900 building-level administrators in the state of Indiana.

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Photo attachment: Trael Kelly