



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ALERT – Thursday, April 30, 2020
Fargo Public School District #1

CRESAP NAMED FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 2020 ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

Lewis & Clark Elementary School Principal **Jason Cresap** has been named the **Fargo Public Schools 2020 Administrator of the Year**. Superintendent Dr. Rupak Gandhi made the surprise announcement outside of Lewis & Clark on Thursday, April 30 with the help of the Fargo Police and Fire Departments.



Cresap is an alumnus of Minnesota State University – Moorhead, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in Educational Leadership.

Cresap began his education career as an elementary teacher for the Walhalla, ND Public Schools in 1995. He taught in the Minnesota school districts of Milaca, Minneola, and Ulen-Hitterdahl before he joined the West Fargo school district in 2007 as an elementary teacher, where he then served as an assistant principal at two West Fargo Elementary schools. Cresap joined the Fargo Public Schools in 2012, when he became the Lewis & Clark principal.

Cresap's selection as the 2020 Administrator of the Year was based on enthusiastic testimonials that paint a portrait of an administrator who is committed to developing strong relationships with everyone in his school environment – students, families, staff, and District colleagues – using a positive and supportive attitude. He is described as innovative, dedicated, driven, compassionate, a role model, a creative problem solver, and a passionate advocate of learning. He is praised for creating a sense of community at Lewis & Clark, where students and staff are each valued, and everyone takes pride in maintaining a supportive learning environment.

Cresap is lauded as an outstanding leader, one who encourages and empowers others. In an effort to build relations between students, families, and teachers, Cresap has implemented Family Night events at his building, where participants socialize and engage in positive community experiences. He was actively involved in implementing ENVoY Training at Lewis & Clark, a program of non-verbal classroom management skills and strategies used to foster student independence and maximize engagement. As one Lewis & Clark teacher shared, "Since the implementation of ENVoY, the climate changes at our school have been extraordinary!" Another teacher said, "Mr. Cresap was instrumental in bringing this system to our school. He works himself to be better at ENVoY strategies. The students have started to utilize this approach also!!" Another nomination for Cresap sums up his leadership philosophy, "He believes in Lewis & Clark [the students and staff]. He is quick to praise, but also strives to make us all realize there is always room for improvement." Jason Cresap embodies the Fargo Public Schools mission to *educate and empower all students to succeed*.

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Jason Cresap, Fargo Public Schools 2020 Administrator of the Year, makes a real and positive difference in the lives of the students, families, and staff at Lewis & Clark Elementary School and the Fargo Public School District.

The Administrator of the Year Award has been presented within the Fargo Public Schools District since 2014. The honor is an award regularly bestowed as part of the District's annual Staff Recognition Program. The District also annually recognizes a "Support Staff of the Year" and a "Teacher of the Year" as part of this program. Adult Learning Center Coordinator **Jennifer Frueh** received the District's 2019 Administrator of the Year Award.

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