MABE NEWS RELEASE
MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF EDUCATION

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For Immediate Release

MABE Announces Selection of Excellence in Education Award Recipient Dr. Nancy Grasmick

Annapolis, MD, May 16, 2019 – The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick as the recipient of the Association's 2019 Excellence in Education Award.

MABE established this award in 2012 to honor then-retiring executive director Dr. Carl W. Smith. It is presented to an individual who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and service to excellence in public education in Maryland. Nominations must be submitted by Maryland school board members and supported by no less than three individuals.

Maryland's first female superintendent, Dr. Grasmick also remains the longest-serving appointed superintendent in the United States with 20 years of service. Prior to her appointment as the State Superintendent of Schools, she initially focused on teaching deaf children at the William S. Baer School in Baltimore, and then rose among the ranks in Baltimore County to become a principal, supervisor and assistant and associate superintendent.

The nomination submission for Dr. Grasmick observed that "with a strong focus on student achievement, teaching quality and funding for public schools, this nominee made significant, visionary strides to improve the quality of public schools across the state. Combining experience with knowledge, vision, and strong political skills, the nominee instituted changes that have defined education in Maryland for decades. The nominee's visionary leadership had a ripple effect across the nation as other states followed Maryland's lead."

Learning of her selection, MABE President Tolbert Rowe noted "I am pleased MABE is honoring such an exceptional academic leader and public school advocate this year. Dr. Grasmick has been a pioneer in championing the importance of educational equity, school funding, and early childhood education. Although she has received many awards throughout her outstanding career, it is most fitting for her to receive the Excellence in Education Award."

The award will be presented during the Maryland Association of Boards of Education Annual Conference in Annapolis, Maryland, on Thursday, October 3, 2019.

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About MABE: Founded in 1957, the Maryland Association of Boards of Education is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to serving and supporting boards of education in Maryland. MABE is a leading advocate for public education in the state with a membership that includes all 24 Maryland boards of education.