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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

LPS EDUCATOR AWARDS ANNOUNCED

June 16th, 2015 (Lincoln, NE) – Thank you to our donors who benefit our teachers and educational community! The Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools announces the following 2015 Educator Awards:

**Barbara Miller** (Lefler Middle School) receives the $3,000 Florence J. Clark Award for Excellence in Middle School Teaching. This award recognizes an outstanding middle school teacher in LPS.

**Charlotte Ceballos and Jeff Pappas** (Lefler Middle School) both receive the John Prasch Health and Physical Fitness Award. This award recognizes educators who have made a significant contribution to students’ lives by promoting health and physical fitness. They each receive $500 for this honor.

**Doug Miller** (Southeast High School) honored as the Mike Troester Outstanding Educator. The Southeast High School award was created through the joint efforts of Junior Achievement, the Lincoln Southeast Student Council and PTSO in memory of Mike Troester, former Southeast Economics teacher. Miller receives $300 for this award.

**Hill Elementary School** **and Principal Michelle Phillips** receive the 2015 Inspire School Award. This award recognizes a school in the district that has achieved the best overall performance for recognition. Based on the review of actual performance relative to the annual goals set by the school, only quantifiable goals related directly to achieving quality or quantum improvement in core educational programs are considered. Hill Elementary receives $6,500 for this honor.

**Holli Longe** (LPS Early Childhood) receives the Ruth I. Eickman Early Childhood Educator Award. This award is presented to an LPS early childhood educator who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to young children and child-centered learning and the use of innovative practices in the field of early childhood education. Longe receives $250 for this award.

**Joan Creger** (Southeast High School) is named the Helen Krieger Outstanding Healthcare Provider. This award recognizes a healthcare provider who has made a significant contribution to the lives of students and families by providing excellence in healthcare and healthcare education. Creger receives $1,000 for this award.

**Joseph Rousseau** (LPS Middle/High School Expelled Program) receives the $1,000 R.L. Fredstrom Leadership Award. This award recognizes LPS teachers or coordinators who have shown outstanding leadership qualities or have demonstrated the potential to become an educational leader.

**Judy Tuttle** (Lincoln High School) receives the $1,000 Nancy Muehlhausen Counseling Award. This award recognizes current LPS employees who are accepted into a Master’s level school counseling program and indicate their intent to work as a school counselor in LPS.

**Linda Roh** (East High School) is named the Myrtle Clark Outstanding Mathematics Educator. This award recognizes excellence in mathematics teaching and provides a source of funding for summer school courses to advance teaching skills or for pursuit of an advanced degree in math. Roh receives $1,000 for this award.

**Lori Leudtke, Brian Kabourek, and Deb Wolken** (Park Middle School, East High School, Northeast High School) are honored with the Union Bank & Trust Award for Excellence in Financial Literacy. This award is given to LPS educators who strive to find creative ways to incorporate financial literacy into their classroom settings. Each educator receives $250 for this award.

**Mike Robb** (Irving Middle School) is named the Marian Battey Andersen/Charles Wheaton Battey Outstanding Teacher. This award recognizes outstanding leadership or potential for leadership at Sheridan Elementary, Irving Middle School, and Lincoln High School. Robb receives $1,200 for the award.

**Sue Cassata** (East High School) receives the $1,000 Marie Bourke Leadership Award. This award recognizes an outstanding LPS principal. Cassata will also participate in the Gallup Organization Leadership program.

**Takako Nagayasu Olson** (Southeast High School) receives the Leola Bullock Multicultural Award. This award recognizes an LPS employee who has been an innovative leader and made a significant contribution to fostering understanding of our multicultural society through developing and implementing district programs.

**Terri Nelson** (Kooser Elementary School) receives the Victor Vaughn Memorial Award. This award recognizes an LPS special education teacher who needs financial assistance to carry out a special project or proposal that would help many special education students. Nelson receives $3,200 for this award.

The Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools believes that all students should have what they need to reach their full potential. We engage our community to inspire students and educators, and create educational opportunities that enhance academic and personal success. The Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools is governed by a volunteer board of directors and supported financially by alumni, businesses, parents, donors, Lincoln Public Schools employees, private foundations, and other members of the community. For more information visit, [www.foundationforlps.org](http://www.foundationforlps.org).

Enclosure: 9 photos