

Castle Honored with Whole Child Leadership Award from National Education Organization -- February 8, 2007

Washington, D.C. - The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), which represents over 175,000 educators throughout the world, today presented Congressman Mike Castle with the Whole Child Leadership Award to recognize his work and dedication to education in the United States. Castle is the only Member of the House of Representatives to receive this award.

Rep. Castle is one of two recipients of the inaugural ASCD Whole Child Leadership Award, along with Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa. The award was presented in conjunction with ASCD's Leadership in Effective Advocacy and Practice (LEAP) Institute. A diverse group of experienced and emerging ASCD leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. for the four-day LEAP Institute, where they engaged lawmakers and advocated for sound, effective education policies.

"I am extremely honored to receive this award today from an organization who shares my strong commitment to education in this country. Through a renewed focus in the 110th Congress on the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind, Head Start, early childhood education, and high school reform, I will continue to focus on these issues that truly can narrow the achievement gap in the United States," Congressman Castle said.

Rep. Castle is the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, where he is responsible for pre-school through high school education. In the 108th Congress, President Bush signed into law two pieces of legislation authored by Rep. Castle - the Reauthorization of Child Nutrition and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Congressman Castle is also an original author of the No Child Left Behind Law, was a key negotiator in the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 and fought for the past year to secure critical funding for key education programs in the Fiscal Year 2007 continuing resolution.

"The Whole Child Leadership Award recognizes that the future of American education must support the development of young people who are healthy, knowledgeable, motivated, and engaged," said Dr. Gene Carter, Director of ASCD. "We are pleased to share this vision with Representative Castle and honor his efforts to bolster education and his commitment to the future success of all of our nation's young people."

Founded in 1943, ASCD, a nonprofit association, is one of the largest professional development organizations for educator leaders. It provides education information services, offers cutting-edge professional development for effective teaching and learning, and supports activities to provide educational equity for all students. ASCD's 178,000 members reside in 135 countries and include principals, teachers, superintendents, professors of education, and other educators.

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