



Columbia Public Schools

Dr. Phyllis Chase
Superintendent of Schools

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Superintendent Announces Retirement

Columbia, MO -- After years of service to the education of children, Columbia Public Schools' Superintendent Phyllis Chase announces she will retire effective August 31, 2008.

“While I am happy to have the opportunity to retire, I am sad to leave a district where I have come to know such caring, dedicated, hard working and intelligent individuals,” Chase said. “For me, this is, and will always be, a great loss.”

Chase became superintendent of Columbia Public Schools in 2003. She previously held teaching, counseling, and administrative positions in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri school districts.

Chase has received numerous awards and recognitions, including receiving the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award from the Missouri House of Representatives in recognition of her community service and commitment to social justice and the Excellence in Educational Leadership Award from the University Council of Educational Administration (UCEA) at the University of Missouri-Columbia for her contributions to the development of broad-based leadership oriented toward social justice.

Chase is especially proud of the accomplishments the district has made during her tenure. “Working together, much has been accomplished. From the initiation of a model school, to the passage of the largest bond issue in Columbia’s history that will enable us to build our first new high school in 36 years and our 20th elementary school,” she said. “Student, school and district performance also indicate that this district will be named a district with Distinction in Performance for a fifth year in a row by the state. This is a level of achievement that few districts have obtained and something of which we can all be proud.”

The Board of Education will soon consider a process to select a new superintendent for Columbia Public Schools.

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