



For Immediate Release

Urbandale Schools Presenting At Visionary Conference For Leaders In Quality Education

Four members of the Urbandale Community School District will be presenting at the 2013 National Quality Education Conference focusing on creativity and innovation for 21st century learners

URBANDALE, Iowa – November 5, 2013 – The Urbandale Community School District has been invited to present at the [2013 National Quality Education Conference](#), “Creativity and Innovation: Keys to 21st Century Learning,” taking place November 17-18, 2013, in Milwaukee, WI. Urbandale’s presentation will provide insight as to how the integration of [Quality/Continual Improvement](#) and Professional Learning Communities have led to meaningful collaboration, innovative classroom learning systems and high levels of student learning.

Over the past four years, the district has maintained a consistent and ever-expanding level of dedication to transforming education through the use of proven quality learning strategies. These strategies are built upon the foundation that begins with the assumption of competence, believes in the inherent and unique potential of every individual and empowers all learners in the system to achieve success. By providing ongoing district-wide training and support, classrooms are being transformed into learning systems with the goals of strengthening student engagement, developing lifelong learning skills and increasing student achievement and success.

“This is an excellent opportunity for us to showcase the role that Professional Learning Communities and quality together have played in helping us to more effectively meet the needs of our students,” said Dr. Greg Carezza, Webster Elementary Principal. “It is our hope to share these strategies with conference attendees, but also to interact with others and learn ways to continue to improve our practice.”

Urbandale’s expertise in transforming education is becoming increasingly visible on a national scale as members of the district receive frequent invitations to present at distinguished conferences. Several of these engagements include having presented at the 2011 and 2012 Deming Fall Conference at Purdue and Iowa State Universities respectively, the Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence Conference in 2012 and presenting at the 2013 40th Annual Conference for Middle Level Education in Minneapolis.

“Invitations to present at state and national conferences serve as validation for the work we are doing to transform learning, and recognizes Urbandale as a state and national leader,” said Dr. Doug Stilwell, Superintendent, Urbandale Community School District.

The Urbandale Community School District will present on Monday, November 18 and will feature four administrators: Dr. Greg Carezza, Webster Elementary Principal; Mark Lane, Director of Human Resources and Jensen Elementary Principal; Dr. Doug Stilwell, Superintendent of Schools; and

Denise Wood, Quality/Continual Improvement Coordinator. For more information on the 2013 National Quality Education Conference, visit: nqec.asq.org

About American Society for Quality (ASQ)

ASQ is a global community of people dedicated to quality who share the ideas and tools that make our world work better. With millions of individual and organizational members of the community in 150 countries, ASQ has the reputation and reach to bring together the diverse quality champions who are transforming the world's corporations, organizations and communities to meet tomorrow's critical challenges. ASQ is headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., with national service centers in China, India, Mexico and a regional service center in the United Arab Emirates. Learn more about ASQ's members, mission, technologies and training at www.asq.org

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About Urbandale Community School District

The Urbandale Community School District includes portions of Des Moines and Urbandale, Iowa. The district serves over 3,900 students in six elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The Urbandale district supports an increasingly diverse student population where 50 languages are spoken. Building on the existing foundation of excellence in education, Urbandale is transforming education throughout the district. By implementing innovative [Quality/Continual Improvement](#) tools and tactics that create learning environments that more fully engage, challenge and motivate students, Urbandale is taking transformation from theory into practice. Urbandale prepares students for becoming lifelong learners and is a school district that brings learning to life for everyone. To learn more, visit: www.urbandaleschools.com

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