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PAGE Announces 2016 Neuber-Pregler Award Recipients

Three Legislators Honored for Their Work and Dedication to Gifted Education

Harrisburg, PA: The Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (PAGE) announces recipients of the 2016 Neuber-Pregler Awards, who will be honored at the Second Annual PAGE Fall Conference on Friday, November 18, 2016:

US Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.

Senator Casey is recognized for his long-standing and on-going support of Acts that recognize the importance gifted education on a national level. He was a co-sponsor of both the TALENT Act and the re-authorization of the ESSA Act in 2015 to secure resources for gifted students. These Acts include educator development programs that foster academic growth in high-ability students, address the "excellence gaps" and fund research for best practices in gifted education. Of particular note, these Acts increase funding for the Jacob Javits Gifted Education Grant program and permit Title I funds can now be used for gifted students.

PA Senator Ryan P. Aument

Senator Aument sponsored House Resolution 139 during his term in the House of Representatives. The study that resulted from this Resolution led to six recommendations to improve gifted education that were all adopted by the Board of Education. One of these recommendations led to the creation of the Guidelines for a Gifted Endorsement offered by the PA DOE. This Endorsement will have major influence on the opportunities for teachers to obtain training in identification, services and needs of gifted children. The other recommendations within the Study provide a basis for improving district monitoring and training of gifted children.

PA Senator Lloyd K. Smucker

As Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, Senator Smucker has supported PAGE and it's efforts to further knowledge, teacher training and understanding of gifted education issues. His interest has helped initiate conversations with key state leaders in the educational field such as the Secretary of Education, the Chancellor of the State System of Higher Education and the PA Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators. He recently co-sponsored the Resolution to designate November 18 as Gifted Education Day.

The Neuber-Pregler Award is named after Margaret Neuber and Hedwig Pregler who helped form PAGE in 1952. This award is presented to individuals who have given years of service to gifted students in Pennsylvania or who have made significant contributions to these students beyond the influence of one school or district.

About PAGE: A nonprofit advocacy organization dedicated to helping gifted learners, parents and educators. An affiliate of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC), since 1951, PAGE has assisted countless parents, teachers and administrators in helping Pennsylvania's gifted learners reach their full potential. We do this through our free Helpline, our network of local affiliates, annual conferences, and effective advocacy. Working with state legislators and members of the state Department of Education, PAGE fostered the passage of Pennsylvania's Chapter 16, Special Education for the Gifted, one of the strongest for gifted education in the nation.