

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 21, 2019

Contact:

Nicole Gerber

National Council on Teacher Quality

ngerber@nctq.org

202-393-0020, ext. 712

COATESVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT AWARDED HONORABLE MENTION STATUS IN GREAT DISTRICTS FOR GREAT TEACHERS INITIATIVE

Washington, D.C.--The National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ), a national leader on teacher issues, awarded Coatesville Area School District Honorable Mention status in the *Great Districts for Great Teachers* initiative. Coatesville Area School District earned this designation after a rigorous analysis of over 50 district policies and district datapoints found commendable work towards supporting, rewarding, and celebrating great teachers.

Coatesville Area School District offers teachers the support and feedback they need to help them be great. The district's comprehensive professional development system focuses on formative teacher observations and evaluation. Observation and evaluation data are used to determine professional development and connect teachers to trained experts that can offer classroom-based demonstrations, coaching, and other supports. Teachers receive both written and oral feedback after each observation, ensuring that the evaluation process is not just about a final rating, but about improving practice.

"We are honored that NCTQ selected us as an Honorable Mention in its *Great Districts for Great Teachers* initiative," said Superintendent Dr. Cathy Taschner. "Our work in the areas of teacher induction and professional development are statements of what we value: our teachers. We know that our purposeful work in professional development has resulted, and will continue to result, in increased student achievement. We are proud of our educators for their daily efforts in carrying out the complex, challenging and rewarding work of schools."

NCTQ developed the criteria for this honor based on its experience stretching over a decade analyzing district human capital policies and practices as well as input from teachers and other education leaders. *Great Districts for Great Teachers* winners excel on five criteria that research indicates are related to effective teaching -- compensation, professional support, effective management and operations, career and leadership opportunities, and support services for students.

The 2018-2019 *Great Districts for Great Teachers* initiative included the review of eight large school districts across Pennsylvania. Of these eight Coatesville Area School District and the School District of Philadelphia have been awarded Honorable Mention status and one district—Council Rock School District—has been named a winner. All participating districts received customized analysis and recommendations on their teacher policies.

Previous *Great Districts for Great Teachers* winners include Boston Public Schools, Broward County School District (Florida), Denver Public Schools, District of Columbia Public Schools, Gwinnett County Public Schools (Georgia), New York City Public Schools, Pinellas County School District (Florida), and Pittsburgh Public Schools. Previous districts awarded Honorable Mention status include Duval County

Public Schools (Florida), Indianapolis Public Schools, Newark Public Schools, and the School District of Osceola County (Florida).

More details about the program can be found at <http://www.greatdistricts.org>.

For additional information or to arrange an interview with Dr. Cathy Taschner, please contact Melanie Crescenz at crescenzm@casdschools.org or 610-466-2433. To arrange an interview with NCTQ, please contact Nicole Gerber at ngerber@nctq.org or 202-393-0020, ext. 712.

###