

News...News...



News...News...

Council of the Great City Schools

1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. ♦ Suite 702 ♦ Washington, D.C. ♦ 20004

FOR RELEASE
October 23, 2008

CONTACT: Henry Duvall
(202) 393-2427

Austin Superintendent Wins Nation's Top Prize in Urban Education Leadership

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23 – Austin Independent School District Superintendent Pascal Forgione Jr. this evening received the 2008 Richard R. Green Award, the nation's highest honor for urban education leadership, at the Council of the Great City Schools' 52nd Annual Fall Conference, held in Houston.

Eleven superintendents of big-city school systems competed for the top award for an urban educator, which is given in alternating years to an outstanding school board member and superintendent from 66 of the largest urban school districts in the country.

Superintendent Forgione received the Richard R. Green Award from the Council of the Great City Schools, a coalition of the nation's largest urban public school systems; ARAMARK, a professional services company; and Voyager Expanded Learning, a company that provides reading and math programs.

The Green Award is named in honor of the first African-American chancellor of the New York City school system, who had also headed Minneapolis Public Schools.

Under Dr. Forgione's leadership since 1999, the Austin school system has seen an upward trend in academic achievement, a return to fiscal stability and a high bond rating, three successful bond elections, and improved community support for the district.

As the recipient of the Green Award, Dr. Forgione received a \$10,000 college scholarship to present to a high school senior of his choice in the Austin Independent School District or from his high school alma mater.

#