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## Allen Named “Emerging Leader” by Indiana University School Administrators Association

The Indiana University School Administrators Association (IUSAA) presented this year’s Dean F. Berkley Emerging Leader Award to Jacob “Jake” Allen, principal of Paul Hadley Middle School. The award recognizes leaders who have made significant contributions to education and who have graduated from the Indiana University Educational Leadership Program.

“Jake Allen was selected for this award for his dedication to ALL students and their learning,” said Barbara Erwin of the IUSAA. “He has the energy and spirit of a true professional. We believe his work in school leadership is just beginning. We are proud to have him a member of our Indiana University alums.”

Allen is now in his third year as the principal of Paul Hadley Middle School and his third year as a doctoral student at Indiana University, where he studies in the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies department (ELPS).

“Dean Berkley was known for his wisdom and knowledge in quality school leadership. For Jake Allen to be recognized with the Dean F. Berkley Emerging Leader award is a great honor for Jake, Paul Hadley Middle School and the entire Mooresville community,” said Dr. Larry Moore, Mooresville Schools Interim Superintendent.

Since his appointment as principal, he and his staff have implemented a classroom framework that maximizes instruction, keeps a clear focus on state standards, and places the learning and assessment of all students at the forefront of instructional practice. The administration team and all staff members have worked together to foster a safe school environment and a culture of high expectations. In 2011-2012, PHMS narrowly missed the Indiana Department of Education’s “A” grade and “Exemplary” status by a fraction of a point. Allen credits the students, staff and parents for these accomplishments and is grateful for the support of district administration, the school board and the community. He is optimistic that PHMS will be awarded the “A” grade and “Exemplary” status for the 2012-2013 school year.

“I am a passionate advocate for the learning and growth of all students in Mooresville, the State of Indiana, the United States, and the world,” said Allen. “I am devoting my life to the field of education, and I am committed to the pursuit of social justice and the possibility for all students to receive an equal education opportunity. I believe in the power of educators to shape a world where all children can achieve their dreams; where each individual student is not only a capable citizen in our global society, but a citizen that is capable of creating change and challenging inequities where they are discovered.”

Allen grew up in Harrisburg, Illinois and attended Harrisburg Community schools and Southeastern Illinois College before graduating in 2000 from Southern Illinois University with a B.A. in English Literature. Jake enrolled in the first Transition to Teaching Program at Indiana University Bloomington in 2003. In 2004, Jake began teaching in the Mooresville Schools and in 2005 Jake completed a Masters Degree in Education. Jake graduated from Indiana University’s Urban Principal Program in 2009 and began his first role in administration in 2010 as the Dean of Students at PHMS.

“I would like to thank my wife, my family, the community of Harrisburg, the community of Mooresville, the IUSAA and Indiana University for their support and critical role in making this success possible,” said Allen. “This is not an individual award, but one that I share with you all.”

