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REPORT PROVIDES INSIDE LOOK INTO THE WORLD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
Twenty-five leading public school superintendents share best-in-class strategies

(April 2, 2007- Arlington, Va., and Philadelphia, Pa.) - The American Association of School Administrators (AASA) and ARAMARK Education have issued *Leadership for Change*, an in-depth report that provides insights on what's ahead for public education from 25 of the country's top school superintendents. The report summarizes the findings of the 2006 National Superintendent of the Year Forum, an intensive three-day leadership event organized in conjunction with the National Superintendent of the Year program. The program, now celebrating its 20th year, is co-sponsored by AASA, the professional organization for school superintendents and other school system leaders nationwide, and ARAMARK, a world leader in providing professional services to more than 650 school districts in the U.S.

The *Leadership for Change* report addresses critical public education issues that have an impact on student achievement. Topics addressed in the report include the No Child Left Behind legislation, the role of a district public school superintendent, professional development for teachers, principal and school board member involvement, and managing increasingly tight budgets. The report also explores the success many districts have experienced with school-business partnerships. Throughout the report, superintendents offer innovative approaches to these issues.

For example, in the report a panel of superintendents discusses school leaders' emerging role as instructional leaders. They offer strategies for filling this role, including:

- Clearly and regularly communicate expectations for learning and achievement to staff
- Keep all staff focused on classroom instruction
- Regularly measure progress toward goals
- Facilitate meaningful conversations about the role of teachers, principals and superintendents in improving student achievement
- Model for principals what superintendents expect of them

"Like the National Superintendent of the Year program, the *Leadership for Change* report celebrates the contributions and leadership of public school superintendents nationwide," said AASA Executive Director Paul D. Houston. "This report presents ideas and solutions that can help school leaders improve learning outcomes for all children."

At the 2006 National Superintendent of the Year Forum, ARAMARK Education and AASA invited the state superintendents of the year, representing excellence in school leadership nationwide, to come together to discuss critical education issues and challenges. The three-day seminar allowed the superintendents to share experiences that support continuous improvement in public education as well as foster new professional relationships.

“This report depicts an inside look into the minds of the nation’s best and brightest education leaders who have overcome challenges to help students succeed,” says Cathy Schlosberg, Vice President, Marketing and Strategic Development for ARAMARK Education. “It is our hope that *Leadership for Change* will help propel critical education issues to the forefront and provide best-in-class strategies to other superintendents, in support of their primary goal of educating students.”

A copy of the *Leadership for Change* report can be found at: www.aasa.org/publications or www.aramarkschools.com. More information on the National Superintendent of the Year program as well as a list of the 50 state Superintendents of the Year can be found at www.aasa.org.

About AASA

AASA, founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders across the United States. AASA’s mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders who are dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children. AASA’s major focus is standing up for public education. For more information, please visit www.aasa.org.

About ARAMARK Education

ARAMARK Education provides a complete range of food, facility, uniform and other support services to more than 650 K-12 school districts in the U.S. It offers public and private education institutions a family of dining and facility services including: on-site and off-site breakfast and lunch meal programs, after-school snacks, catering, nutrition education, retail design and operations, maintenance, custodial, grounds, energy management, construction management, and building commissioning. For more information on ARAMARK’s facilities, please visit www.aramarkschools.com.