

# **PRESS RELEASE: January 17, 2018**

## **GASSP Principal of the Year Finalists**

**Blairsville, Ga.: January 17, 2018** The Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals announces this year's Principal of the Year Finalists. The finalists are;

**Dr. Garrick Askew—Lithia Springs HS, Douglas County**

**Dara Bennett—Pierce County HS, Pierce County**

**Sherri Berry—Coffee MS, Coffee County**

**Sonja Coaxum--Fort MS Service Learning Magnet Academy, Muscogee County**

**Dr. Julia Daniely, Westside HS, Bibb County**

**Kevin Gaines, Hart County HS, Hart County**

The finalists were selected from a large pool of applications. The application is an extensive review of the performance of their school based on data provided by the applicants. The finalists will go through an interview in Athens to determine the Georgia Principal of the Year.

The Principal of the Year recognition program is sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals and Association Member Benefit Advisor (AMBA). The Georgia winner will represent the state in the competition for National Principal of the Year, sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Principal of the Year program recognizes principals that excel in educational leadership, resolving complex problems, developing self and others, and community service.

GASSP's 1300 members across Georgia are extremely proud of the finalists. Melton Callahan, Executive Director of GASSP and JoAnn Bartoletti, Executive Director of NASSP, also offer their commendation for these outstanding school principals who personify excellence in providing quality leadership to their school communities