FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Sara Mosqueda-Fernandez

Office: 215-884-6499

**Spring-Ford Area School District Principal Appointed to National Board of Principals Association**

ROYERSFORD – Melissa D. Patschke, principal of Upper Providence Elementary School was appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP).

Patschke began her term as director of Zone 2 in July. She will represent principals in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

“We’re extremely proud to have one of our principals sitting on this national board,” said Spring-Ford Area School District Superintendent Dr. David Goodin. “I believe that she will passionately represent the interests of not only the district’s students but also those of all the students in the region.”

Patschke is a committed member of NAESP and serves in numerous positions, including as a National Principal Mentor Certification coach since 2009, and as the Federal Relations Coordinator for Pennsylvania in 2010 and 2011. She is also a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Elementary & Secondary School Principals (PAESSP). As the Pennsylvania State Representative to NAESP, Patschke has served on PAESSP’s executive committee to the board of directors since 2010.

Patschke began her education career in 1988 as a special education teacher in the Reading School District. Patschke accepted an assistant principal position in 1996, serving at both Lemoyne Middle School and Allen Middle School, both in Camp Hill. She went on in 1997 to serve as principal of Amity Elementary Center in Birdsboro. Since 2002, she has served as principal of Upper Providence Elementary School in Royersford.

Patschke earned her B.S. in education from Kutztown University, her M.A. in education from Millserville University, and an Ed.D from Immaculata University.

Established in 1921, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) serves elementary and middle school principals in the United States, Canada, and overseas. NAESP leads in the advocacy and support for elementary and middle-level principals and other education leaders in their commitment to all children.

**End**