

Leadership Network Luncheon Meeting

Thursday, November 15, 2007

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Embassy Club

Menu: Assorted Buffet

Cost: \$20

RSVP: www.dmlleadershipnetwork.org

Margaret at 331-1861 by Tuesday, November 13

JUDI CUNNINGHAM OF DES MOINES INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Judi Cunningham, Executive Director for the Des Moines Independent Community School District/Northwest Region, will be presenting “Unpacking Des Moines Public Schools” at the November 15th meeting of the Leadership Network. Judi has served as Executive Director for over 11 years, working with 40 Elementary and 10 middle schools.

Judi was born in Des Moines and grew up in SW Iowa, attending Wiota and Atlantic Schools. She graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a Bachelor of Science degree and Drake University with a Master degree in Administration, as well as extensive graduate studies. She began her teaching career in Des Moines at Brooks and King Elementary. Judi also served as a consultant for DMPS in career education and language arts, as an Interim Reading Supervisor and worked with teachers new in the field and career teachers having difficulty. Judi was Principal at Brooks, Hillis, Cowles and Walnut Street; and she has received the honor of Speech and Language Principal of the Year.

Judi’s areas of work are as follows: English as a Second Language, School Closings, Boundaries, Budgets, Grants, Curriculum and Assessment, Literacy, Preschool and Head Start, Teacher Quality, Principal and Teacher Leadership Academy, School construction renovation, School Business Partnerships, Mentoring and Tutoring and International Baccalaureate. Along with all of her work commitments, Judi is involved in many Community Organizations and serves on several boards including the Drake College of Education International Advisory Board, the Business Education Alliance Board, and the Everybody Wins! Iowa Board. When not working, she enjoys reading, golf, boating, and the mountains.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

November is a month brimming with football and the official beginning of “The Eating Season.” Somewhere I heard that Thanksgiving Day is the only day of the year that all knives and forks are picked up at precisely the same time to make sure no game time is missed and by that last halftime you’re ready for pie.

On a more serious note, Thanksgiving, the fourth Thursday of November is the special day set aside to give thanks for all we receive. It is also a day to remind us to share our gifts with those in need. Something as small as taking the time to read a book with someone that needs to feel special, stopping to visit with a person full of living history and wisdom, or even dropping change in an expired parking meter to save someone the extra hassle of paying a ticket. The small unexpected gifts are the ones that make us feel good down to our toes. Do one little thing everyday and you will find a snap to your step or a smile on your face and feel the satisfaction that only giving without the thought of return can provide. “The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers.” This quote from Ralph Nader puts the mission of our Leadership Network in very plain concise words. We, by joining this organization, have taken the responsibility to help others become leaders. We need to find others to join us and provide them with the opportunity to become leaders. There will always be followers, but it is individuals we identify as having the qualities necessary to lead that we need to invite into our fold.

Our speaker for November is Judi Cunningham, Executive Director for the Des Moines Independent Community School District. She will be presenting “Unpacking Des Moines Public Schools”. Judi has served as Executive Director for more than 11 years and has worked with 50 schools. We are looking forward to Judi’s presentation.

You do not have to be a member of the Leadership Network to attend, as guests are always welcome. If you are interested in more information about the group, contact any member or visit our website www.dmlleadershipnetwork.org.

The Leadership Network is a non-profit organization and each year we fund a scholarship for an AIB College of Business student and consider donations to other local charitable organizations.

Sincerely,

Jim Hansen

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mark your calendar now for all of our programs through the year and plan to be there.

- **November 15:** Judy Cunningham, Des Moines Independent Community School District
- **December 20:** Robert Davis, Executive Director of Iowa Radio Reading Information Service for Blind and Print Handicapped (IRIS)
- **January 17:** Pat Boddy, Director, Polk County Conservation
- **February 21:** Carmela Brown, Legislative
- **March 20:** *TBA*
- **April 17:** *TBA*
- **May 15:** *TBA*

GROWING OUR MEMBERSHIP

If you know anyone who might like to join, encourage them to attend one of our meetings to experience the benefits for themselves. They may also contact Executive VP of Membership, Randy Knudtson of Iowa Realty 778-4905 to learn more about membership.

SPOTLIGHT MEMBER

To Be Announced....