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Huth Road Elementary School and Huth Road PTA Recognized Nationally as a School of Excellence

Grand Island, NY, September 12, 2016—National PTA® has recognized Huth Road Elementary School and Huth Road PTA as a National PTA School of Excellence for their achievement in building effective family-school partnerships. Research shows that when families and schools work together, student achievement increases, schools improve and communities grow stronger. Being recognized as a National PTA School of Excellence demonstrates Huth Road School and PTA's leadership and commitment to supporting student success and continuous school improvement.

"The partnership between Huth Road School and Huth Road PTA is a true example of what can be accomplished when schools and families work together," said Laura Bay, president of National PTA. "They have put strong practices into place that involve families in the life of the school, and we are pleased to recognize them as a National PTA School of Excellence."

National PTA launched its National PTA School of Excellence program to help strengthen family-school partnerships across the country and make measurable progress in the areas of education, health and safety and arts and cultural exploration. As a National PTA School of Excellence, families at Huth Road feel welcomed and empowered to support student success, and PTA is a key partner for continuous school improvement.

To be recognized as a National PTA School of Excellence, PTAs evaluate their current family engagement strategies and submit a goal for school improvement that families, teachers and administrators have set together. They improve upon their family engagement strategies throughout the year, while focusing on their goal. The National PTA School of Excellence designation is awarded to those schools that have demonstrated improvement in the family-school partnership and significant progress toward their goal.

Huth Road principal Kerri Nowak commented, "We are so honored to be recognized as a National PTA School of Excellence. Our PTA is an important part of what makes our school great. The programs, events, and support enrich our students' experiences at school on a daily basis. We wouldn't be who we are without our incredible PTA.

"We've worked hard to connect families with school, especially those parents who work full time, by offering volunteer opportunities during lunch hours and weekends. For families that just can't commit to coming into school, we offer ways they can contribute from home, either financially or through doing projects that can be done at home and brought into school later.

"Just this year, an idea sprang up from our PTA Enrichment Committee that benefits every student. The Committee wanted to install a hallway-sized timeline in our main corridor to support the new Social Studies Frameworks. We used readily available materials like black electrical tape and sheet protectors to bring the idea to life over the summer. Our PTA volunteers also attend every Open House to give personalized tours of the school, and our PTA emails "Huth Highlights" to families regularly to improve communication and strengthen home-school connections. It's through efforts like these that the PTA makes a big difference in the culture of our school.

About National PTA

National PTA® comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c) (3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.