

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT RECEIVES "SUPER BOWL" OF EDUCATION AWARD

Indianapolis School District Awarded \$28.5 Million

Nearly one year after hosting the Super Bowl, Indianapolis has once again beat out the competition. This time the stakes involved the \$400 million dollar Race to the Top federal grant program for education reform. On Tuesday Warren Township Schools learned its application to personalize student learning, improve student achievement and educator effectiveness, close achievement gaps and prepare every student for college and career success was one of 16 selected for funding. Over 370 applications from all over the country were originally considered.

According to Dr. Dena Cushenberry, Superintendent of Warren Township Schools, "2025 is the year our current kindergarten students are projected to graduate from Warren Central High School. As a result of the national *District Race to the Top Grant Award*, our students will be better prepared than any cohort group before them, with unlimited options to select instructional pathways that best meet their learning preference, pace and interest. They will leave our district fully-prepared for tomorrow, because for us **2025** begins today."

"We are thrilled to have been selected for the Race to the Top grant. It's validation of the work that we've been doing through the 8-Step Process over the last twelve years." Warren Township Schools will be able to effectively implement real classroom-level reform and personalized learning experiences for all students. Components of the district's plan include curriculum, instruction, and formative assessments; an infusion of instructional technologies and high tech learning environs; personalized student supports; virtual learning opportunities; and college and career preparation.

The Race to the Top program was created in 2009 to encourage states to implement innovative strategies and programs that facilitate real, sustainable educational reform. This is the first year the competition was opened up to individual school districts. Warren Township becomes the first Indiana district to receive the Race to the Top award.

"The *Race to the Top District Grants* recognize vision and inspire academic innovation. It comes as no surprise that the Warren Township MSD is one of the select districts splitting the nearly \$400 million awarded, and the impact of this achievement on our students will be felt for years to come. The successes Warren Township brings to life through its efforts will serve as a springboard for continuing to strengthen all of public education," stated Congressman Andre Carson.

For additional information contact:

Dennis Jarrett, Director, Media and Community Relations (317) 292-7320 or djarret2@warren.k12.in.us