

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT

Jason Leahy, Executive Director

Illinois Principals Association

Phone: 217-525-1383

E-mail: jason@ilprincipals.org

**Illinois Principals Association Names Sean German as
2017 Herman Graves Award Recipient**

Springfield, IL – Sean German, principal of Argenta-Oreana High School in Argenta, IL, has received the 2017 Herman Graves Award from the Illinois Principals Association.

The Herman Graves Award was established in 1991 to recognize outstanding service to IPA. Herman Graves was selected as the first honoree and the award was established because of the intrinsic contributions he made to the Association and his enthusiasm for the profession. Regional winners are chosen from the 21 regional areas of the Illinois Principals Association. From these elite administrators, a state winner is chosen by a committee comprised of IPA Past Presidents.

“Sean German embodies all of the qualities the IPA looks for in its Herman Graves Award winner – integrity, humility, courageous leadership, and a love for the profession and the IPA,” said Jason Leahy, Executive Director of the Illinois Principals Association. “Having had the opportunity to work with Sean for several years, I am grateful for his service to the Association and to school leaders throughout Illinois.”

Sean German has been an active member of the Illinois Principals Association for eighteen years and has served the organization as the Abe Lincoln Region representative on the IPA Board of Directors (2008-2014), and most recently as President-Elect (2014-2015), President (2015-2016), and Immediate Past President (2016-2017). Sean has also served on the IPA Strategic Planning Committee, State Superintendent’s Principal Advisory Committee, and as IPA representative on the Illinois P-20 Council School Report Card Working Group, and Vision 20/20 Funding Reform Committee.

German has been active in the Abe Lincoln Region of the Illinois Principals Association, which includes school leaders from Christian, DeWitt, Logan, Macon, Menard, Moultrie, Piatt, Sangamon, and Shelby counties. He has previously served on the Abe Lincoln Region Board of Directors as Membership Chair (2006-2007) and Region Director (2007-2008).

German has attended the IPA annual fall conference each year during his principalship, participated in Regional Office of Education professional development opportunities, attended national conferences through the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and advocated with legislators at NASSP Advocacy Conferences in Washington D.C. He has also contributed to the development of fellow school leaders, specifically aspiring leaders, through presenting at the IPA Aspiring Leaders Workshop six times in the last seven years.

German lives in Monticello, Illinois with his wife Cara, daughter Emmerson, and son Kelton. He is a graduate of Monticello High School. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science Education from Olivette Nazarene University and a Master of Science in Educational Administration from Eastern Illinois University.

The Illinois Principals Association is a leadership organization which serves over 5,200 educational leaders throughout the state of Illinois and whose mission is to develop, support, and advocate for innovative educational leaders. For more information about the IPA, please visit www.ilprincipals.org.

The Herman Graves Award is sponsored by Horace Mann Companies of Springfield, IL.