Recipients of the 2008 National Civic Star Awards Named

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24 Public School Districts Honored for Pioneering Innovative School-Community Partnerships

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GAITHERSBURG, Md. – The American Association of School Administrators and Sodexho, Inc., announced the state recipients of the 2008 National Civic Star Awards. The National Civic Star Awards are presented to school districts that implement unique and creative methods to cultivate community partnerships that result in enriched student achievement.

"The most successful school districts are those that strongly support and are strongly supported by all facets of the community. The National Civic Star Awards recognize schools and communities that are combining their resources and working together to ensure students grow into productive, compassionate citizens," said AASA Executive Director Paul D. Houston. "AASA is proud to sponsor this award with Sodexho because it highlights the importance of community involvement in the educational process and encourages schools to seek sustainable relationships within their local communities."

The 2008 National Civic Star Awards will be presented at AASA’s National Conference on Education, February 14 - 17, in Tampa. All state recipients along with the national winner will be recognized during both a conference general session and a special reception hosted by Sodexho. In addition, all the winning programs will be profiled in a supplement to an upcoming edition of The School Administrator.

"Sodexho is proud to be the founding sponsor of an award program that recognizes school districts and communities that work hand-in-hand to help students reach their maximum potential," said Lorna Donatone, president of Sodexho School Services. "The 2008 National Civic Star Award recipients are shining examples of what school-community partnerships can accomplish. We applaud their spirit and ingenuity."

2008 National Civic Star Awards State Winners

Alabama
Tuscaloosa City School District
Arizona
East Valley Institute of Technology School District 401

California
Coachella Valley Unified School District

Florida
Brevard Public Schools

Georgia
Forsyth County School District

Illinois
Community Unit School District 300

Kansas
Ellinwood Unified School District 355

Kentucky
Boone County Schools

Massachusetts
Leominster School District

Michigan
Van Buren Intermediate School District

Missouri
Poplar Bluff School District R1

Mississippi
Petal School District

Montana
Missoula County Public School District 1

North Carolina
Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County School District

New Hampshire
District 1 Contoocook Valley

New Jersey
South Bergen Jointure Commission

New York
Albion Central School District

Ohio
Parma City School District

Pennsylvania
Kennett Consolidated School District

Texas
Killeen Independent School District
About AASA
AASA (www.aasa.org), founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders across the United States. AASA's mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders who are dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children. AASA's major focus is standing up for public education.

About Sodexho, Inc.
Sodexho, Inc. (www.sodexhoUSA.com) is a leading integrated food and facilities management services company in the U.S., Canada and Mexico, with $7.3 billion (USD) in annual revenue and 125,000 employees. Sodexho serves more than ten million customers daily in corporations, health care, long term care and retirement centers, schools, college campuses, government and remote sites. Sodexho, Inc., headquartered in Gaithersburg, Md., is a subsidiary of Sodexho Alliance (www.sodexho.com). Sodexho, Inc. funds the Sodexho Foundation (www.helpstophunger.org), an independent charitable organization that, since its founding in 1999, has made more than $9.2 million in grants to fight hunger in America.