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NEWS RELEASE

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HMS Principal Dr. Taylor Honored by MetLife



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Huntington Middle School Principal Dr. Gwendolyn Taylor was honored by MetLife for being named the 2011 Georgia Middle School Principal of the Year by the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals. The Principal of the Year recognition program is sponsored by MetLife and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). The program recognizes principals who excel in educational leadership, resolve complex problems, develop self and others and perform community service.

Johnnie Prater, Financial Services Representative for MetLife Resources, visited Huntington Middle on opening day to present Dr. Taylor with a banner. Prater is pictured (on left) with Dr. Taylor and Superintendent of Houston County Schools, Dr. Robin Hines.

Dr. Taylor will represent Georgia for the National Principal of the Year award at the National Principals' Institute in Washington D.C., September 29 – October 2, 2010. Hosted by NASSP and MetLife, each state winner will be honored at a Gala Event and two 2011 National Principals of the Year – one for high school and one for middle school – will be announced from three finalists in each category. Each of the finalists will receive \$1,500. The national winners will receive \$5,000 each from MetLife Resources for their own professional development and/or a school improvement project.

Prater remarked, "At MetLife Resources, we take our sponsorship of education-related programs very seriously. We have sponsored the Principal of the Year program since 1992. We consider our support of this program to be one of our most significant partnerships because it truly recognizes excellence in leadership." He added, "While at the National Principal Institute, Dr. Taylor will receive the traditional crystal Snoopy award and participate in two days of professional development with State Principals of the Year from across the country. This experience is valued at approximately \$1,800." To Dr. Taylor he said, "MetLife Resources values its partnership with principals across the state of Georgia. We honor your leadership, and we value the work you do to provide a positive future for our nation through the education of America's greatest resource – it's youth."

Dr. Taylor may be contacted at (478) 542-2440. For more information, Prater may be reached at (478) 394-0719.

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