Johnson Junior High Assistant Principal Named 2020 Wyoming AP of the Year

For Immediate Release

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Cheyenne; 12-4-2019—James Whitehead has been named the 2020 Wyoming Assistant Principal of the Year by the Wyoming Association of Secondary School Principals and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). James Whitehead will be formally recognized at the 2020 National Principals Conference and will be considered for the 2020 NASSP National Assistant Principal of the Year.

During Dr. Whitehead's time as an assistant principal at Johnson J.H.S. he has been instrumental in systematically organizing the structure of our Professional Learning Communities. With attention and focus on creating systems to support student learning and guide discussions, staff are now focused on the data and how to breakdown potential barriers facing individual students. The work that has been implemented at Johnson J.H.S. is a direct relation to the work Dr. Whitehead has accomplished through completing his dissertation at the University of Wyoming. Dr. Whitehead has stretched himself even further, for our students and school, by implementing a restorative justice model in our 8th grade office in an effort to better remediate behaviors and conflict between both student to student and student to staff.

"I am very honored and humbled by this award. This award is a tribute to the amazing and wonderful students, staff, parents, and administration of Johnson Junior High. I am in awe of the combined dedication, compassion, and hard work that makes our community such an amazing place to be a part of." - Dr. James Whitehead

The assistant principal is among the most crucial and least understood roles in education. As school leadership has become a more complicated endeavor, the assistant principal's role has evolved beyond just traditional student discipline into an important part of the leadership team—engaged in instructional leadership and in creating a positive climate.

As part of the award, each state assistant principal of the year will receive an expenses-paid trip to the NASSP National Principals Conference at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor, MD, July 7–9, 2020. A panel of experts designated by NASSP will

review the applications of all state winners to select three finalists for national recognition in March. A separate panel will then review the finalists and select the NASSP National Assistant Principal of the Year, to be announced during Assistant Principals Week—April 6–10, 2020.

For more information about the National Assistant Principal of the Year program, visit www.nassp.org/apoy.

About NASSP
The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) is the leading organization of and voice for principals and other school leaders across the United States. NASSP seeks to transform education through school leadership, recognizing that the fulfillment of each student's potential relies on great leaders in every school committed to the success of each student. Reflecting its long-standing commitment to student leadership development, NASSP administers the National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, National Elementary Honor Society, and National Student Council.