FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ryan Patti Awarded Ohio High School Principal of the Year by OASSA

Columbus, OH – August 31, 2026 – The Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators (OASSA) is proud to announce Ryan Patti, Principal of West Geauga High School, as the recipient of the prestigious Ohio High School Principal of the Year Award for his exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to student success.

The selection process recognized outstanding principals from across Ohio who exemplify excellence in school leadership. A committee of OASSA Board of Directors members carefully reviewed the candidates, and Patti was selected to represent Ohio as the High School Principal of the Year. OASSA congratulates all of the finalists and celebrates Patti for this well-deserved honor.

Patti is entering his sixth year as principal of West Geauga High School and his 15th year as a school administrator. Under his leadership, the school has experienced significant academic growth while expanding opportunities for students.

“Leading a school is about building the systems and culture that allow teachers to do their best work and students to reach their potential,” Patti said. “Our greatest successes have come from creating a shared responsibility for learning and giving both teachers and students the tools they need to succeed.”

Patti’s professional leadership extends beyond West Geauga. He has served on the OHSAA/OASSA Principals Advisory Committee, participated in state safety initiatives, advocated for College Credit Plus and career-technical education opportunities, and assisted other districts with improving mathematics performance on state assessments. He has also served on the EXCEL TECC Advisory Council since 2013. His professional accomplishments include being named OASSA/NASSP Ohio Assistant Principal of the Year in 2019 and receiving the Geauga County Award for Public Service and Safety in 2023. He has also organized and contributed to professional learning events focused on school safety, mental health, crisis response, and supporting students.

West Geauga Local Schools Superintendent Dr. Nancy Benincasa said Patti’s recognition reflects the impact of his leadership on students, staff, and the broader school community.

“Ryan’s leadership is grounded in a clear belief that every student deserves access to meaningful opportunities and that strong schools are built through collaboration,” Benincasa said. “His commitment to instructional excellence, student growth, and developing the capacity of those around him makes this recognition especially well deserved.”

OASSA is honored to recognize Ryan Patti for his outstanding contributions to education and his dedication to nurturing the next generation of leaders.