



News Release

For Immediate Release
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Northwest ISD Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. One of 100 Selected for National Connected Superintendents Summit at the White House

Karen G. Rue, Ed.D., superintendent of the Northwest Independent School District, has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education as one of 100 top school leaders from across America to participate in the first-ever [National Connected Superintendents Summit](#) Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the White House.

Superintendent Rue is among exemplary local school chiefs who will be recognized for their leadership in helping transition their districts to digital learning. This unique conference will bring together officials from throughout America to share with one other and the Education Department promising approaches to using technology in classes.

“I am honored to be selected to represent the hard work and talent of NISD students and educators,” said Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. “I look forward to collaborating and sharing with educators across the nation while at this summit. With a focus on future-ready students, we are leading a transformation in public education.”

Recently, Dr. Rue was named the Region XI Superintendent of the Year. She has served as superintendent of schools in Northwest ISD since 2005 and is passionate about preparing students for the future and for the digital age in which we live.

The White House summit will be followed by a series of 12-15 regional summits that will focus on the digital progress both made and possible by local school districts. The events will also include the unveiling of digital tools that facilitate incorporation of technology into short-term and long-range education planning.

To help spotlight the value of technology in schools, the Education Department is sponsoring a Future Ready Initiative aimed at showcasing outstanding school leadership and strategies.

Future Ready superintendents demonstrate effective use of technology in some of the following ways:

- Fostering and leading a culture of collaboration and digital citizenship;
- Transitioning schools and families to high-speed connectivity;
- Empowering educators with professional learning opportunities;
- Accelerating progress toward universal access to quality devices;
- Providing access to quality digital content;
- Creating access, equity, and excellence – particularly in rural, remote, and low-income districts;
- Offering digital tools to students and families to help them prepare for success in college;
- Sharing best practices and mentoring other districts in the transition to digital learning.

In June 2013, President Obama announced the [ConnectED Initiative](#), starting with a goal of connecting 99 percent of students to next-generation connectivity within five years. Model schools and districts across the country are using technology to create personalized learning environments; technology will play an increasingly crucial role in the future.

For more on the work of the Department's Office of Educational Technology, including resources for students, parents and educators, click [here](#).

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