Indiana Principal Assumes Presidency of National Principals Association


“I believe principals must assume a more active role in the advocacy of rights for all children. NAESP is the organization to provide the format for that change,” Cargile said. “Principals must continue to lead as the vision for tomorrow evolves because education requires a broad base of support for children to be successful.”

A member of NAESP since 1987, Cargile served as a federal relations coordinator from Indiana, on the delegate assembly, and on the Vision 2021 advisory committee. She has also held leadership positions as a member of the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP), serving as a member of that organization’s board of directors and as a legislative liaison.

Cargile has served as the president of the Alumni Board of Directors for Indiana State University, president of the Indianapolis Public Schools Principals’ Association, District XII president of the Indiana Association of School Principals, and president of both the Alpha Eta Omega Chapter and the Alpha Mu Omega Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., of which she is a life member.

Cargile began her education career with the Indianapolis Public Schools as a teacher, elementary guidance counselor, and human relations consultant. Cargile held these positions until 1985, when she accepted her first principalship with the Indianapolis Public Schools, serving as an elementary and middle school principal until 1996.

In 1996, Cargile took a principalship in Tacoma, Washington, a position she held until she returned to Terre Haute, Indiana. Since 2001, Cargile has been the principal of Rio Grande Elementary, which was named the first NCLB Blue Ribbon School in the Wabash Valley in 2004 and an Indiana 4 Star School in 2001, 2002, and 2004. In 2005, Cargile was voted IASP District 8 Principal of the Year.

Cargile earned a B.S. and M.S. from Indiana State University, and an Ed.S. and Ed.D. from Indiana University.

Established in 1921, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) serves 28,000 elementary and middle school principals in the United States, Canada, and overseas. NAESP leads in the advocacy and support for elementary and middle-level principals and other education leaders in their commitment to all children.