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Green Street School Principal Selected as PDK Emerging Leader

ARLINGTON, Va.—Raffaele A. LaForgia, the principal of Green Street School in Phillipsburg, N.J., has been named a PDK Emerging Leader for his work building strong partnerships between school staff and parents in order to meet the needs of every individual student.

“Each one of our students is looked at as a whole child,” LaForgia said. “We see their academic, social, behavioral, and family needs. I require staff to reach out to parents consistently to keep them involved and informed about their child’s progress. As a school, we create programs that involve parents and we offer them strategies they can take home and use with their children.”

In addition to his work as a school leader, LaForgia also served on a district-wide committee that explored ways to reduce the achievement gap and provide individualized support plans to students.

PDK International, the education association that has recognized LaForgia as an up-and-coming leader in the K-12 profession, will host LaForgia and 25 other education change agents at a weekend networking event this December. The PDK Emerging Leaders will gather in Washington, D.C., meet with federal education policymakers, and share best practices with each other.

“The Emerging Leaders program is our way of paying it forward in public education,” said William J. Bushaw, PDK International’s executive director. “We find people under 40 who are standouts in the profession and we bring them together for a weekend of networking and expertise-sharing in the nation’s capital. By investing in these young leaders, we are investing in the future.”

PDK International is an association that represents nearly 30,000 professionals in K-12 education across the country. Every year, it recognizes a new class of PDK Emerging Leaders. For more information on PDK’s 2013-2014 Class of Emerging Leaders, go to www.pdkemergingleaders.org. Information about PDK International is at www.pdkintl.org.

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