



2010-2011 Ransome Prize Winner

Susan R. Groesbeck

Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck is Principal of Havergal College, a school for 920 girls, ranging from JK to grade 12, in Toronto, Ontario where Sue is also a member of the Canadian Accredited Independent School Board (CAIS). In her 39 years as an educator and 19 years as a principal in independent schools, Sue has proven to be a leader in women's education in both Canada and the US.

As a charter member of the Board of Directors for the New York State Association of Women Administrators, an organization she helped found, Sue was instrumental in planning their first initiative "Women helping Girls" for which the group was awarded a Kellogg Foundation Grant. She was a respected teacher, winning Teacher of the Year for New York State and was awarded two Fulbright Grants (to Germany and to Japan). Sue was a Klingenstein Fellow at Columbia University, as well.

As Head of School in Hilton Head, Dr. Groesbeck hosted the National Association of Principals of Girls' School (NAPSG) Conference, regularly attends the Headmistresses Association of the East (HMAE) conference, and is a supporter and member of the Wellesley Institutes. Sue is a member of the Girls Scouts of the USA Friendship Circle Board and has been a lifelong Girl Scout Leader.

This year, Sue has given lectures on Girl's Educational trends in Hong Kong and Dubai and has spearheaded her school's innovative Strategic Plan, which focuses on girls' self-efficacy and global capability.

As principal, Dr. Groesbeck demonstrates innovative and creative leadership, sensitive to honouring her staff and boosting careers, particularly of her administrative colleagues, showcasing their many contributions and enhancements.

A quote from a former colleague reads, "Sue's total commitment to her chosen profession in the field of primary through secondary education was evident from her first days as a classroom teacher through her extended experience as a school head, dedicating herself to serving students and fellow educators with grace and dignity. In my seven years working with Sue, I experienced first-hand her boundless energy, incredible work ethic and her selfless resolve, helping the students, faculties, and schools that she has served become the best they could be."