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### Executive Administrator

Karen Meador

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## WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NAMES BOARD MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2014

### For Immediate Release

**Dallas, Texas, January 13, 2015.** In recognition of their unflagging service to the Woodrow Wilson High School Community Foundation and to the schools and the community which it supports, the Foundation has named **Susan Schuerger** as board member of the Year 2014 and **Maria Hasbany** as volunteer of the year 2014.

As a parent of five children, **Susan Schuerger** has served since 1991 as a parent and volunteer in the DISD schools feeding into Woodrow Wilson. She held virtually every major leadership position—including president—of the PTAs and, later, SBDMs at Lakewood, J.L. Long, and Woodrow. Susan was involved in the ground-floor planning of the Foundation. As a founding director, one of the original five members of the board, Susan has shaped and nurtured the Foundation from day one. Moreover, she has worked closely with school staff and administrators on grass-roots efforts.

Foundation President **Richard H. Vitale** noted, "It may be said that without Susan Schuerger, the Woodrow Wilson High School Community Foundation might never have come into being. For years she has advocated for a greater platform to raise and manage large amounts of funding to support facilities and educational programs within the schools. She has always dreamed big, seeing beyond the horizon to better schools, a better community, a better society."

**Maria Hasbany** has served as the president of the Lakewood Service League, the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA, the Lakewood Elementary PTA and the J.L. Long Middle School PTA. She has also served on the Dallas Park Project board, the Lakewood Elementary SBDM, the J.L. Long SBDM. and the Woodrow Wilson PTA board. Currently she is the SBDM chair at J.L. Long Middle School and the vice president of the Woodrow PTA.

"Our volunteer of the year, Maria Hasbany, has set the bar for service and effectiveness at an incredibly high level," says Vitale. "Because of her passion for improving public education in East Dallas, she spends countless hours volunteering in many different capacities. She has been instrumental in helping the Foundation expand our network and our partnerships."

During the December 19, 2014 meeting of the board of directors, Vitale also presented the President's Award to Karen Meador, the Foundation's executive administrator. "Since Karen Meador took on the responsibilities of day-to-day administration of the Foundation," says Vitale, "we have multiplied our efficiency and effectiveness in our financial reporting as well as our routine communications. Quite simply, she has revolutionized our operations and lifted an onerous burden off our hard-working board members. We can hardly find the words to thank and praise Karen."

The Woodrow Wilson High School Community Foundation was created in 2009 and serves as a central point for fundraising, grants, scholarships, and other programs and projects that benefit Woodrow as well as the public middle and elementary schools in its feeder pattern. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization registered with the Internal Revenue Service and is completely independent of the Dallas Independent School District.

For more information about Woodrow Wilson High School, contact Principal Kyle Richardson at 972-502-4400. For information about the Woodrow Wilson High School Community Foundation, contact Richard H. Vitale at 214-702-1242.

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Woodrow Wilson High School Community Foundation

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