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Carl A. Cohn receives Learning Forward’s Contribution to the Field Award

DALLAS—December 6, 2011—Learning Forward presented the Contribution to the Field award to Carl A. Cohn. This award is Learning Forward’s highest honor bestowed to an individual for his or her impact on the field of professional learning.

A national leader in education for more than 30 years, Cohn dedicates himself to building the capacity of teachers and principals to improve the performance of all students. Cohn is Co-Director of the Urban Leadership Program and Clinical Professor in the School of Educational Studies at Claremont Graduate University. Cohn is also a board member of ACT, Inc., the Center for Reform of School Systems, and EdSource.

As superintendent of Long Beach Unified School District for 10 years, Cohn spearheaded the dramatic turnaround of the district into a model for high academic standards and accountability. In recognition of his commitment to leadership and improved student achievement, he was awarded the McGraw Prize in 2002 and the district won the Broad Prize in 2003.

Data-driven professional development was a significant strategy in the work Cohn led in Long Beach. Learning Forward Executive Director Stephanie Hirsh commented, “Carl always ‘talks the talk and walks the walk’ of effective professional learning. Because of his commitment, we’ve seen compelling results for students in Long Beach.”

Learning Forward presented the prestigious award at its 2011 Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif. Learning Forward’s annual awards program recognizes individuals for their commitment to improving student achievement through effective professional learning. School Improvement Network sponsored the 2011 awards.

About Learning Forward (formerly National Staff Development Council)

Learning Forward’s purpose is ensuring that every educator engages in effective professional learning every day so every student achieves. Learning Forward is a nonprofit, international association of learning educators focused on increasing student achievement through more effective professional development. To learn more about the impact of high-quality professional learning, visit www.learningforward.org.