Welcome to San Diego and the 150th anniversary celebration of AASA, The School Superintendents Association. The National Conference on Education is one of the premier events for educators throughout North America.

This year will be extra special as we use the occasion of our organization's anniversary to celebrate the success of public education. San Diego is a city known for its world-class restaurants, beautiful beaches and thriving neighborhoods. I can’t think of a better location for AASA and my fellow superintendents to celebrate such a significant milestone.

AASA has always been the nation’s premier organization for superintendents. Our policies and beliefs have always focused on what is best for students. My membership with AASA has helped me to broaden my view when it comes to education policy. Meetings like this have enabled me to network with superintendents from across the country. Information I gathered has allowed me to go back to my district in Ponca City, Okla., and prepare for things that are coming down the pike — all to best position my district to address challenges with our students’ best interests in mind.

One of the most important aspects of our conference is the level of professional development opportunities available. Whether it’s principles of leadership, digitizing learning or superintendent/school board relationships, you’ll find what you’re looking for at this meeting.

Enjoy the National Conference on Education. Enjoy San Diego. Your presence is an indication that you are committed to making a positive difference, not only in your own district, but throughout your state and the country. Meanwhile, I’m here to help you. If there is anything I can do for you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

David Pennington
President
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Dear Colleagues:

It is an honor and pleasure to officially welcome you to 2015 National Conference on Education — the kick-off of our 150th anniversary celebration.

As we applaud school leaders everywhere, we are especially grateful that you made the journey to San Diego to help us commemorate this milestone. As the leaders of your school districts, you are setting the pace for the way our children learn and what they will achieve later in life.

AASA, The School Superintendents Association, has been bringing together education leaders for generations. Our conferences have been known for delivering world-class speakers. This year’s meeting will be no different. You will find our agenda to be rich with inspiration and insights from the best and brightest.

 Appropriately themed “Celebrate Public Education in America,” our conference will address some of public education’s most critical issues, including:

- Common Core State Standards
- Superintendent/School Board Relationships
- Governance and District Management
- Leadership
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Digitizing Learning
- Healthy School Environments

I am also pleased to share that in addition to announcing AASA’s 2015 National Superintendent of the Year at our conference, we will proudly unveil the first cohort of superintendents that has completed our National Superintendent Certification Program. As you are well aware, a superintendent must not only be an instructional leader, but also a CEO and community leader. The program prepares newer superintendents for this sometimes daunting job. We’ve had tremendous feedback from those who’ve participated in the certification program. Please join us in congratulating the first of what will be many groups of superintendents to earn our certification.

As you meet new and old friends in public education, we hope that the strategies and practices exchanged during the conference will serve you in the best possible way. I’m sure you’ll find that the issues you face in your school district are the same issues that your peers are facing. You will also have the opportunity to visit with more than 200 companies committed to improving the K-12 space.

Enjoy your stay in San Diego. While AASA serves as the voice for superintendents across the country, you serve as the voice for your students. We applaud your contributions to public education. We look forward to hearing from you throughout the conference.

Daniel A. Domenech
Executive Director
AASA, The School Superintendents Association