



# ***News Release***

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## **DiPatri selected as 2006 Florida Music Administrator of the Year**

Viera – Dr. Richard A. DiPatri, Superintendent of Brevard County Public Schools has been selected as the 2006 Music Administrator of the Year by the Florida Music Educators’ Association (FMEA).

“As the State Awards Chair, I am thrilled FMEA has selected our very own superintendent, Dr. DiPatri, for this prestigious award! We are so fortunate in Brevard to have District-level support for the arts in every school. Since his arrival in 2000, Dr. DiPatri has demonstrated significant efforts in support of music education and allocation of resources. Now the entire state will know of his accomplishments,” said Shelia King, FMEA Awards Chair.

“Dr. DiPatri has offered tremendous support to the schools applying for the Florida Department of Education Music Demonstration School Project, and as a result, Brevard has a total of eight Music Demonstration Schools and four honorable mention sites,” stated School Board Member Robert Jordan in the application. Brevard has 8 of 28 Music Demonstration Schools in the state.

FMEA is a not-for-profit, professional association that serves and supports music educators across Florida. FMEA promotes music education research, organizes in-service programs, and broadens teachers’ knowledge and interest in their profession through affiliation with colleagues. FMEA is made up of music instructors from Pre-K level through college, including music supervisors. FMEA membership is required to participate in the All-State Conference, which includes the All-State Bands, Choruses and Orchestras.

"Dr. DiPatri is a strong advocate and proponent of the Sunshine State Standards for Music and believes that music is a vital academic elective. In a time when school music programs are in danger, it is a comfort knowing we have a leader who is a true advocate of the arts. We appreciate his support of our music programs and are very proud he has been selected for this award," stated DaLaine Chapman, Brevard Public Schools K-12 Music Resource Teacher.

Dr. DiPatri will be given the award at the FMEA Awards breakfast in Tampa on January 6, 2006.