



**PRESS RELEASE**

**CAPITAL AREA SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

*Since 1949*

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**\*\*\* For Immediate Release: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 \*\*\***

## **Dan and Mary Udell Receive the 2017 Friends of Education Award**

Dan and Mary Udell of Hudson City School District will be honored with the Capital Area School Development Association (CASDA) Friends of Education Award on February 16<sup>th</sup> at the first annual Friends of Education Dinner. CASDA presents this award to recognize the selfless contributions of individuals who dedicate themselves to serving students and the school community.

Dan and Mary are a retired couple who readily give their time and knowledge to support the students of the Hudson City School District. They have been active volunteers in the Hudson Reads program since its inception, serving as reading mentors for more than a decade. Each week, they meet with students, sharing books and stories, forging meaningful relationships and working to support literacy development. A few years ago, they undertook a project to build a bookshelf together with their reading mentees. The bookshelf, which memorializes the late, great children's author Walter Dean Myers, stands in the MC Smith Intermediate School Library and houses scores of books donated by this dedicated couple.

Their generosity with their time and expertise to enrich the opportunities afforded to the students of Hudson make Dan and Mary Udell true Friends of Education.