

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Ypsilanti Community Schools Recognized as the only Michigan
2022 COGNIA Global Network *System of Distinction* Recipient**

Ypsilanti, MI – November 7, 2022 – On Monday, November 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. during our regularly scheduled Board of Education Meeting, Ypsilanti Community Schools will be honored and recognized by Cognia™ Global Network as Michigan’s first and only recipient of the 2022 Cognia™ *Systems of Distinction* Award. 39 systems out of the 1500 school engagement reviews conducted during the 2021-22 school year received an award. We are the only school district in Michigan to receive this award. It is a very prestigious award that Cognia initiated in 2021. Across the world, educators dedicate themselves to maximizing opportunities for learners; the *System of Distinction* award recognizes systems that truly stand out in their service to learners.

Ypsilanti Community Schools’ accreditation is granted by Cognia™, a nonprofit improvement organization that provides quality assurance for schools, school districts, and education service providers throughout the world. According to Cognia, many members of the Cognia Global Network seek accreditation from Cognia, which is earned as the result of extensive internal preparation and a review by a team of outside educators. Cognia’s Performance Standards for accreditation are based on ever-expanding research and understanding of learning and define high-quality education for today’s world. Once an institution is accredited, it engages in similar preparation and reviews every five years to maintain that designation.

Cognia congratulates Ypsilanti Community Schools for demonstrating excellence in meeting the Cognia Performance Standards during their 2021–2022 accreditation reviews, thus earning the *2022 System of Distinction* award. The District effectively implements high-quality instruction, shows consistent organizational effectiveness, and maintains a commitment to continuous improvement. Ypsilanti Community Schools demonstrates an energetic and sustained commitment to each of their learners. Cognia serves as a trusted partner in advancing learning for all. Find out more at cognia.org.

Superintendent Dr. Zachery-Ross shares. “Being able to maintain this distinction for 5 years demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our openness to review and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of each of our

students that we serve.” Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president, and CEO of Cognia stated, “Cognia Accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school and its community on the primary goal of preparing lifelong learners in engaging environments where all students can flourish. Ypsilanti Community School has demonstrated that it has continually met high standards and made progress on key indicators that impact student learning. Maintaining their accredited status for 5 years highlights a commitment to the quality and improvement of the education provided.”

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