

The Downingtown Area School District Superintendent Search Update

July 26, 2016

Dear DASD Parents, Students, Staff and Community:

As you are most likely aware, Superintendent Dr. Larry Mussoline has announced his retirement at the end of the 2016-17 school year. We are very grateful to Dr. Mussoline for his many years of service to the District and to education. Under his leadership, DASD continued its quest for excellence and has become one of the top ranked school districts in the state and in the nation.

The task of finding his successor is a daunting one, and we are grateful to Dr. Mussoline for providing us with ample notice. The Board is pleased to announce that the search for the next superintendent of schools for Downingtown Area School District is already underway. The Board has contracted with the Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU) to conduct the superintendent search. The CCIU also conducted the search that brought Dr. Mussoline to the District in 2009.

We have now met several times with the CCIU Search Team, headed by CCIU Executive Director Dr. Joseph J. O'Brien, and have begun the process to find the next superintendent of schools for the Downingtown Area School District.

Integral to the process will be communication with district stakeholders. The Board will provide timely updates on the search's progress on the District's website. In addition to providing information, the Board will also seek information by conducting a series of stakeholder focus groups in the fall. The dates for the focus groups are being scheduled for September and October 2016; more details and invitations will follow as the dates, times and locations become confirmed. From the focus groups, the Board will develop a candidate profile and an array of interview questions that center on the needs and challenges facing our district as identified by you, our stakeholders.

Information on focus group dates, times and locations will be published on the website in September.

The Board of School Directors hopes to have the search process completed by the spring in order to have a superintendent who can assume his or her responsibilities at Downingtown Area School District on July 1, 2017.

We look forward to working with the entire DASD community to bring an outstanding educational leader to serve as the District's next superintendent of

schools. Inquiries regarding the search process should be directed to Dr. Joseph O'Brien at DASDSuptSearch@cciu.org.

We wish Dr. Mussoline a happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement! He will be greatly missed by the students, staff, community and school board.

Sincerely on behalf of the DASD School Board,

Colleen Cranney, President
Downingtown Area School Board