



Pittsburgh
Public Schools

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For Immediate Release

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New Board Policy Makes Way for Development of Community Schools within District

PITTSBURGH July 27, 2016 –As part of its efforts to create partnerships between District schools and community resources, the Board approved a new Community Schools policy this evening. Drafted by the Board’s Policy Committee with input from local Community School advocates, the policy makes way for a strategy that “promotes the success of District students and creates a network of centrally located supports for families and the community as a whole.” Any formal designation of a community school will occur through an application process and determination of program sustainability.

“Parents and community members have asked us to make Community Schools a priority,” said Board President, Dr. Regina B. Holley. “I want to thank the Board’s Policy Committee for its work in developing this policy that now makes way for Community Schools in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. To ensure the sustainability of the community schools strategy, the policy relies on the development of the Administrative Regulations, led by the Superintendent, which will create district-wide standards for school designation, family and community engagement, decision-making structures and evaluation.”

The policy additionally forms a District Community School Steering Committee that will ‘monitor and implement the designation process, partnership development, conflict resolution and evaluation of District community schools.’ In consultation with the Superintendent, the Board will determine the composition of the Community School Steering Committee. Criteria developed by the Community School Steering Committee will be included in the Community School Policy’s administrative regulations necessary ensure District-wide standards for community schools.

The new Community Schools Policy further details the definition and elements of a community school and can be viewed on the District’s Board Policy section of the website at <http://www.pps.k12.pa.us>.

In Other Business

This evening the Board approved a contract with Greenway Strategy Management to manage the development of an actionable strategic plan to guide the future direction of the District. Utilizing the collective knowledge, commitment and experience of the District and its community, as well as effective approaches of high-performing urban districts, through a partnership with the Council of the Great City Schools, the District seeks to reassess its strength, assets and opportunities for improvement.

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“As Superintendent, I am approaching this transformation-seeking planning process from the belief that people in the system are competent, hard-working, and need to be supported, said Dr. Anthony Hamlet. “Our strategic plan will build off of the successful practices currently taking place across the District as well as propose the important changes necessary to reach our goals for students.”

Gateway Strategy Management was one of seven proposals received by the District through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. All RFPs were evaluated using the criteria established in the RFP. The operating period for the contract with Greenway Strategy Management is August 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017. The total contract amount shall not exceed \$117,500 (including expenses).

Board Approves Principal Assignments at Two District Schools

This evening the Board approved two principal assignments to fill recently vacated positions.

Ms. Kira Henderson Appointed Principal of Pittsburgh Weil PreK-5

Ms. Kira Henderson will move from her current position as Assistant Principal at Pittsburgh Faison K-5 to take on the role Principal of Pittsburgh Weil preK-5, effective July 1, 2016. Ms. Henderson joined the District in August 2002 and has held multiple roles including English Teacher at Pittsburgh Milliones (2011 – 2014) and Special Education Teacher at Pittsburgh Lincoln (2006-2011) and Pittsburgh Milliones (2004-2006).

Mr. Vince Lewandowski Appointed Principal of Pittsburgh Carmalt PreK-8

Mr. Vince Lewandowski will transition from his current position as Principal on Special Assignment Instructional Leadership Specialist to become Principal of Pittsburgh Carmalt PreK-8, effective July 1, 2016. Mr. Lewandowski joined the District in September 1998.

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