

News Release

Rochester Board of Education

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Rochester Board of Education Announces New District Leader

The Rochester Board of Education has announced that it is entering into a contract with Terry Dade to be the next Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Dade will officially sign his contract at an upcoming Board of Education meeting.

Terry Dade, currently an assistant superintendent of Fairfax County, Virginia public schools, was selected over three finalists – Devon Horton, Chief of Schools for the Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville, Kentucky; Sito Narcisse, current Chief of Schools for Metro Nashville Public Schools in Tennessee; and Eric Thomas, the current Chief Turnaround Officer for the Georgia State Board of Education.

“I am humbled and honored to join the Rochester City School District family, as we work together to provide all students with the high-quality education they deserve. Together we can accomplish tremendous gains in student achievement and success, and I look forward to partnering with all stakeholders to make this a reality for our students, families, staff, and community,” said Terry Dade.

Board President Van Henri White said the selection of Dade was a difficult one since all four candidates were highly qualified and dedicated to making sure students thrive beyond their K-12 education.

“Mr. Dade looks forward to joining the RSCD community. His professional experience speaks volumes to the quality of leadership that he will bring to the District, where he is eager to begin serving students, families, and staff,” said President White.

Dade was selected through a process that began with 31 applications from around the country. BWP and Associates was the Illinois-based educational leadership search firm hired by the Board of Education to coordinate the search for a new superintendent. The firm developed a leadership profile and gathered information from community stakeholders who responded to an online survey. The Board also conducted community forums with all four candidates.

Dade will replace Interim Superintendent Daniel G. Lowengard, who has led the District during the search process. His first official day on the job will be July 1, 2019.

Dade began his career in Esmont, Virginia, as a fourth-grade public school teacher before becoming a principal at four schools in Washington, DC and Fairfax County Public Schools. He

went on to become an Executive Principal for School Improvement before serving in his current role as assistant superintendent.

Since 2015, Dade has been an assistant superintendent in Fairfax County Public Schools, leading 45 elementary, middle, and high schools and 37,000 students in a District of 180,000 students. Dade says he thrives on working in diverse communities and especially those with high levels of poverty. He is proud of a school improvement model he helped establish, which significantly reduced the number of schools not receiving state accreditation.

Dade is expected to get his Doctorate of Education this month from Virginia Tech University. He holds a Master of Arts from Trinity University, along with a Master of Teaching and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Virginia.