

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Dear Upper Darby School District Community,

I wanted you to be among the first to hear after a thorough search for our next superintendent, we are proud and excited to name Dr. Dan McGarry as the next Superintendent of Schools. In the last 6 months in the position, Dan has proven that he is the right choice at the right time for our school district.

Dan is an Upper Darby graduate who cares deeply about the success of the Upper Darby School District community. He is an 18-year veteran of public education, with 15 years in the Upper Darby School District. He has served as an English teacher, Assistant Middle School Principal, Principal of Bywood Elementary School, and as the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.

The superintendent search formally began in July of 2018 with the goal of finding a candidate who would promote and sustain school environments in which each student is known, accepted, valued, trusted, respected, cared for, and encouraged to be an active and responsible member of the community.

The search included the formal screening of 34 diverse candidates, nearly 60 combined hours of student, community, and staff focus groups, planning meetings and in-person candidate interviews. The Delaware County Intermediate Unit was brought in to assist with the search.

The board interviewed nine candidates in the first round of interviews. After the initial interview, three candidates were invited to a second-round interview. Following the second round of interviews, the Board selected two final candidates. The full school board will vote on McGarry as the next Superintendent at the March 26th advertised special voting meeting.

Dan has been a steady hand at the wheel since being named interim superintendent, and he brings much-needed stability at an important time for our school district.

Thank you for helping make the Upper Darby School District Community so special. Please join the school board in welcoming Dr. McGarry on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at the 6pm advertised Special Voting Meeting. There will be a reception to follow to greet the Superintendent and his family. The meeting will be held in the Upper Darby High School Boardroom.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Mitchell  
President, Upper Darby School Board