
BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Information/Discussion _____
Future Action _____
Action X _____

Item: Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services

Submitted by: Dave Rodgers

Date: 6-28-24

Recommended by: Dr. Ron Gorman and Dave Rodgers

Board Meeting Date: July 15, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board approve the hire of Dr. Jennifer (Jenny) Fee as the next Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services. This recommendation comes as a result of Dr. Gorman's transition to Superintendent. Dr. Fee will have the benefit of consulting with Dr. Gorman as she transitions to this instructional leadership role that he has held the past two years.

BACKGROUND:

Qualified applicants selected for interview progressed through up to three rounds of interviews, allowing the team to get to know the finalists very well. Following initial phone interview screeners, five candidates were invited to meet with the Leadership Team, one of whom later withdrew. Three of those candidates were invited to meet with a broad range of fifteen stakeholders that included local superintendents and Kent ISD program and departmental leaders. Each finalist proved to be well-qualified, however Jenny excelled in every phase and received a great deal of supportive feedback from the stakeholder panel.

Dr. Fee is well-known among educational leaders in Kent County. Prior to serving as Superintendent at St. Joseph Public School for three years, she held multiple administrative positions at East Grand Rapids Public Schools. She was a runner-up for the recent Forest Hills superintendent search. She also has teaching experience in Michigan, Florida and Colorado. Jenny earned two degrees from the University of Michigan and her Ph.D. from Michigan State University. Her finalist presentation focused on improving student outcomes through a focus on comprehensive student engagement strategies.

It is anticipated that she may begin this new position on or before August 1, 2024.