

November 8, 2018

Shawn Parkhurst Named Next Windsor Locks Superintendent

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WINDSOR LOCKS, CT – The Windsor Locks Board of Education is pleased to announce that Shawn Parkhurst has been appointed as the next Superintendent of Schools. Parkhurst is currently the assistant superintendent for Cheshire Public Schools.



Parkhurst comes to Windsor Locks with a wealth of experience as a teacher, principal and assistant superintendent. Before taking his current position in Cheshire, he was assistant superintendent in Wallingford from 2013-17. Before that, he was an elementary school principal in North Branford, Clinton, Groton, and Westerly, R.I. He started his education career by teaching elementary school in Vermont from 1988-97, followed by three years teaching in Japan.

In 2010, Parkhurst was nominated for National Distinguished Principal of the Year in 2010.

"It is with great pride that I, on behalf of the members of the Board of Education, announce the appointment of Mr. Shawn Parkhurst as our new Superintendent of Windsor Locks Public Schools," said Patricia King, chairwoman of the Board of Education and Superintendent Search Committee. "Through the selection process we learned of Mr. Parkhurst's leadership, management style, professionalism and personality which will serve the district, students, administrators, teachers and staff, parents and all stakeholders in a participative environment to enhance our goals."

Parkhurst says he is "eager to continue the momentum that has been paved by the incredible work of the staff and administration of Windsor Locks. I look forward to building relationships that continue the culture that is articulated in one of the goals of the district: building a network of caring adults."

He received a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from Johnson State College in Vermont.

Parkhurst replaces Superintendent Susan Bell, who retired in June after leading the district since 2014.

The search for the new superintendent was facilitated by consultants from Cooperative Educational Services (C.E.S.) in Trumbull. After meeting with focus groups and conducting an online survey that included 360 participants, the C.E.S. consultants created a leadership profile based on the community's desired characteristics for the next superintendent. Parkhurst was chosen from a pool of 13 applicants.