

Press from:

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### **New Providence Board of Education announces appointment of new Superintendent of Schools**

The New Providence Board of Education proudly announces the appointment of Dr. Lauren Zirpoli as the new Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2024. With a career spanning almost 20 years in educational leadership including 13 years right here in New Providence, Dr. Zirpoli brings a wealth of experience, vision and dedication to this vital role.

Dr. Zirpoli has a proven track record of fostering academic excellence, student-centered learning environments, and community engagement. Her passion for educational equity and commitment to providing every student with the opportunity to thrive align perfectly with the values of the New Providence School District.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed spending the past thirteen years in various leadership roles within the New Providence School District. During this time, I have worked with amazing students, parents, administrators, teachers, and support staff! It has been a fulfilling journey to be a part of a community that prioritizes excellence in education, and fosters an environment that teaches students to be good citizens that will thrive in our society. I am truly humbled to be the next Superintendent of Schools in the New Providence School District and cannot wait to lead us into the future!” said Dr. Zirpoli.

Dr. Zirpoli received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Kean University and then her Masters in Education Leadership, Management and Policy from Seton Hall University before earning her Doctorate in Education—K-12 Administration, also from Seton Hall University.

Starting her career in education with the Elizabeth Board of Education as a teacher of American and British Literature, Dr. Zirpoli then worked her way through various administrative positions since 2005, including the Dean of Students at Franklin Township High School and the Assistant Principal at Northern Highlands Regional High School before landing in New Providence as the Assistant Principal of New Providence High School in 2011. Dr. Zirpoli has served in different capacities in New Providence, including as the Assistant Principal and Principal of New Providence High School and Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services for the past four years.

In September 2023, the Board contracted with New Jersey School Boards to assist with the search to replace retiring Superintendent Dr. David Miceli. By early October, the position was

officially posted, and the Board got to work holding listening sessions with staff, administrators, and parents. From these sessions and the online survey, the Board formulated interview questions specific to the District for prospective candidates.

The search generated 28 applicants, including internal candidates, external candidates, current superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, directors, and business administrators. More than half of these applicants had earned their doctorate. One applicant stood out from the rest in a very competitive candidate pool.

New Providence Board of Education President Bernadette Cuccaro shared “Throughout the interview process, Dr. Zirpoli displayed her passion for student-centered education and her desire to move the district forward while keeping the traditions that have become part of our district’s culture in place. Congratulations! The Board is confident that you are the right person to lead us forward with your strong sense of passion and commitment to our community.”

Please join the Board in welcoming Dr. Zirpoli to this new role. The Board will share “Meet and Greet” opportunities with the public in the coming weeks. Together, we look forward to a bright and promising future for all of our students.