

# BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**COLIN BYRNE, D.P.S.**  
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

January 6, 2022

## **New District Administrators**

Dear Members of the Blind Brook Community,

With all that has been happening in the world lately, I am happy to be able to deliver some good news. The District has found two individuals who will help us successfully navigate the rest of the 2021-2022 school year.

I am extremely happy to introduce Ms. Laurie Baum who will be serving as Blind Brook's Interim School Business Official. A committee of community members, administrators, parents and business office employees interviewed several candidates for the position that was vacated early this school year. Ms. Baum was one of the candidates who was referred to and ultimately selected by the Board of Education to serve as an Interim School Business Official for the remainder of the current school year. Ms. Baum comes with over twenty years of experience in the workings of the business office with her most recent experience in the Long Island school districts of Sag Harbor and Bethpage. She has managed a wide variety of functions including budgeting, personnel, facilities management, construction, food service and transportation. During the interview process Ms. Baum demonstrated her extensive knowledge of financial and facilities management. She officially started in the District on January 5th and is already making a positive impact in the Business Office. I look forward to having Ms. Baum's assistance in overseeing the Districts' finances and facilities for the rest of the year.

I am also glad to introduce Mr. Stewart Hanson who has agreed to serve as our Interim Director of Health, Nursing, Physical Education and Interscholastic Athletics. Last month Ryan Naccarato submitted his resignation with his final work day occurring this week. He is taking a position closer to his family. We wish him well in his new position. While I had originally planned on doing a full search process for a replacement, the limited time available before Mr. Naccarato's departure coupled with being in the middle of the school year prompted me to look for an experienced individual to serve as an interim until there was time to do a full search. I received recommendations for several people from colleagues in other districts. After speaking with the potential candidates, getting input from District employees and calling for recommendations, Mr. Hanson was selected to fill the interim position. Mr. Hanson brings 42 years of experience in education which includes twelve years as Director of Athletics, Physical Education and Health in the Lakeland school district as well as serving in interim roles in Harrison, Irvington and Pearl River. He shared with me that he enjoys attending sporting events and is eager to join the Blind Brook administrative team. I welcome Mr. Hanson and thank him for helping us keep our athletics and physical education programs going.

Sincerely,

Dr. Colin M. Byrne  
Interim Superintendent of Schools