

January 14, 2026

Dear Cheltenham Community -

I'm writing today to share a personnel change in the Cheltenham School District's Office of Education. After much thoughtful consideration, Assistant Superintendent ShaVon Savage will assume the district's Director of Teaching and Learning position. The board approved Ms. Savage's change in assignment at Tuesday's legislative board meeting. This decision was made to provide further focus on instruction and student achievement, as Ms. Savage will now focus on curriculum, instruction, teaching and learning in our schools.

As we launch a search for a new assistant superintendent in the coming weeks, I will be supporting the Office of Education. I am also bringing in respected education veteran Dr. David E. Thomas as the Special Assistant to the Superintendent to support operations.

A distinguished educator and executive leader, Dr. Thomas has decades of experience in K-12 and higher education, organizational development, leadership, government, external affairs, and community engagement. Dr. Thomas worked in K-12 education and social services as a teacher, senior level central office administrator, career counselor, behavioral therapist, and case manager. Most recently, as Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Community Engagement at Philadelphia Community College, he led strategic initiatives related to K-12 partnerships and programs, adult education programs, student success and wellbeing, community engagement and external affairs, and institutional planning and innovation.

Dr. Thomas holds a B.S in secondary education (history and social studies), a B.S. in theology, and an M.S. in counseling psychology from Cairn University in Langhorne, Pa., an M.Ed. in adult and organizational development from Temple University, and a doctorate in organizational leadership and innovation from Wilmington (Del.) University. He also holds a Commission Qualification Letter of Superintendent Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Please welcome Dr. Thomas to Cheltenham.

Thank you,

Dr. Brian W. Scriven
Superintendent of Schools