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Lakewood Local Schools Board of Education Hires Heather Hedgepeth as District Superintendent

The Lakewood Local Schools Board of Education has hired Dr. Heather Hedgepeth as the district's new Superintendent. She was presented and approved in a special meeting of the Board of Education on April 16, and her official start date is August 1, 2026. She replaces Scott Coffey, who announced his plan to retire at the end of this school year in January.



Dr. Hedgepeth has served for the past five years as Assistant Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer for Pickerington Local School District (PLSD). In this role, she has provided strategic leadership across multiple areas critical to the district's success. She oversees the District Policy Committee, guiding the review, recommendation, and implementation of board policies and district practices. Dr. Hedgepeth works closely with K–6 principals, providing instructional feedback and support to strengthen leadership and enhance student achievement. In addition, she leads the District PBIS Committee, supporting a positive and inclusive school culture.

"I am honored to serve as the next superintendent of Lakewood Local Schools. Lakewood is a district with a strong sense of community, pride, and tradition. I look forward to listening, learning, and working alongside our students, staff, families, and community members to build on that foundation and ensure every student is supported, challenged, and prepared for the future."

Dr. Hedgepeth previously served as Director of Human Resources for Pickerington Local School District (PLSD). Earlier in her career, she spent 12 years as a middle school principal within the district.

"The board is excited to welcome Dr. Heather Hedgepeth to Lakewood Local Schools," said Board President Jonathan Lynch. "We are looking forward to watching her lead, inspire, and make a positive impact on our students, staff, and the entire community."

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Dr. Hedgepeth earned her B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of North Carolina – Pembroke and her master's degree in Elementary Education from North Carolina Central University. She also earned a master's degree in Educational Leadership from The Ohio State University. She earned her Doctor of Education degree from Concordia University of Chicago.

Dr. Hedgepeth and her husband, Johnathan, have three children: Lydia (28), Andrew (21), and Rebecca (13).

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