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Norwalk, Conn. (July 10, 2026) – The Norwalk Board of Education has appointed Dr. Damon Lewis as the new Executive Director of Leadership Development for Norwalk Public Schools.

Dr. Lewis has been the principal of Ponus Ridge STEAM Academy since July 2015 and previously served as the middle school's assistant principal for five years.

Dr. Lewis was selected as the 2025-26 National Middle Level Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), as well as the 2025 Connecticut Middle School Principal of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS). He also recently agreed to participate in Gov. Ned Lamont's Blue-Ribbon Commission on K-12 Education Funding and Accountability.

A seasoned educational leader with a proven track record at Ponus Ridge, Dr. Lewis has fostered a collaborative environment that drives academic achievement and continuous improvement.

Under his leadership, Ponus Ridge has significantly decreased its chronic absenteeism rate over the last two years, earning his school national media recognition. The number of Hispanic and Black students in the Gifted & Talented program increased as well as the number of female students in Accelerated Math.

For the district, Dr. Lewis played an instrumental role in the redesign of the Gifted & Talented program, school counseling, middle schools and STEAM schools. He sat on the Safety Task Force Committee, the Superintendent Principal Advisory group and the District Strategic Plan Task Force, and currently serves as the Black Male Administrators Group Facilitator.

Before joining Norwalk Public Schools, Dr. Lewis served as the principal of A.L.P.H.A. Alternative High School in Stratford, CT for two years. He started his career as a Career Education Counselor at his alma mater of Harding High School in Bridgeport before becoming a School Counselor at Trumbull High School in 2004.

Dr. Lewis earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Sociology from the University of



Connecticut. He earned a Master of Science degree in Education from the University of Bridgeport and later earned a Master of Science degree in School Counseling from Southern Connecticut State University.

Dr. Lewis earned his Professional Diploma for Education Administration from the University of Bridgeport and, later, his Doctorate of Education from the university.