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Hingham School Committee Selects Firm for Superintendent Search Process

On June 21, 2018 the Hingham School Committee voted unanimously to engage the New England School Development Council (NESDEC) of Marlborough, Massachusetts to assist in the search for a new Superintendent of Schools. NESDEC is a not-for-profit organization that serves school districts throughout the six New England states. Dr. Carolyn Burke and Dr. Arthur Bettencourt will serve as the consultants for the search.

The committee received proposals from five firms and interviewed two consultants that met the stated criteria and budget. "We are looking forward to working with NESDEC in this important process," stated Chair Michele Ayer. "NESDEC's approach to developing a comprehensive candidate profile and references from school districts with similar demographics to Hingham appealed to the committee."

The Hingham School Committee will be meeting with the NESDEC consultants during the summer to review the various elements of the search and to develop a search timeline. In assisting the School Committee with the search, NESDEC will generate advertising and outreach materials, recruit potential applicants, provide training and guidance for the preliminary screening committee, and assist throughout the process as candidates are screened and interviewed.

An integral part of the superintendent search will be a Community Needs Assessment process involving parent and community participation in focus groups and a web-based survey. The Community Needs Assessment portion of the search is designed to obtain input regarding the attributes, experiences and knowledge that the new superintendent should possess. The Needs Assessment also provides an opportunity for stakeholders to identify immediate tasks and challenges that the new superintendent should address. The information, accumulated as a result of the Community Needs Assessment, will be developed into a *Successful Candidate Profile*, which will be used by the School Committee as it considers candidates for the position of Superintendent of Schools.

The Hingham School Committee will share more information about the search process at the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 23, 2018.

In January 2018, Dr. Galo confirmed her plans to fulfill her contract through the 2018-2019 school year and retire at the end of her term in August 2019. The School Committee announced that it will conduct a full, open search for a new superintendent to be hired for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information about the search process, please visit: <http://hinghamschools.com/school-committee/>. For more information about NESDEC, please visit: www.nesdec.org

Hingham Public Schools serves nearly 4,300 students in four elementary schools, a 6-8 grade middle school and a 9-12 grade high school. The mission of the Hingham Public Schools is to provide challenging and comprehensive educational programs in a safe and supportive environment, enabling all students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for success as local and global citizens. Commitment to learning, fulfillment of potential and service to others are the core values of the Hingham Public Schools. For more information about the Hingham Public Schools, please visit: <http://hinghamschools.com>.

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