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UPDATED: September 18, 2018

Superintendent Search Process Underway – Parents and Community Invited to Participate in Focus Groups and On-Line Survey

During the September 10, 2018 meeting, the Hingham School Committee announced next steps in the superintendent search process including focus group dates and the availability of an on-line survey.

Hingham Public Schools has engaged the New England School Development Council (NESDEC) to assist them in the search process for a new Superintendent of Schools. An integral part of the process involves parent and community participation in focus groups. The groups are designed to obtain participant input about the attributes, experience and knowledge that the new superintendent should possess. The groups also provide an opportunity for participants to identify immediate tasks which the new superintendent should address. Participants are encouraged to share future oriented thoughts. Focus groups are facilitated by NESDEC consultant Carolyn Burke, Ed.D. and the no-pressure atmosphere is friendly and welcoming. Participants are invited to attend for all or any portion of the time. Separate focus groups are scheduled for school staff, town department staff, special education parents/guardians and high school students. NESDEC will address specific topics with these invitation-only groups.

The **focus group sessions** for parents and community members will be held:

Day	Date	Time	Location
Thursday	September 27 th	8:30 - 10:30 AM	Middle School
Saturday	September 29 th	9:00 AM - Noon	Hingham Town Hall*
Tuesday	October 2 nd	8:30 - 10:30 AM	Foster School
Tuesday	October 2 nd	7:30 - 9:00 PM	School Department Conference Room

**due to overwhelming community response to support the NephCure Walk/Run, the Saturday focus group is moved to Town Hall.*

Additionally, an **on-line survey** will be available for parent and community input to share further thoughts or if you are unable to attend the focus groups. The public may access the survey at <http://hinghamschools.com/school-committee/superintendent-search/>. The survey will be open Thursday, September 27th through Monday, October 8th at 11:00 pm.

All comments from the focus groups and the on-line survey are anonymous and organized by NESDEC into categories and groups (for example: administrators, staff, parents, community members, students, etc.) and are provided to the School Committee in a community needs assessment report. This report provides valuable information to the School Committee as it creates its *Successful Candidate Profile*.

The Hingham School Committee appreciates and values the public's involvement in the Superintendent Search process. The school committee hopes for wide participation in this outreach effort and looks forward to hearing community members' views.

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: <https://hinghamschools.com/school-committee/superintendent-search/>. 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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