

GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Greenwich, CT

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For immediate Release

Greenwich Board of Education Appoints Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Gildea is ideal candidate for improving student achievement through
personalized learning and evidence-based management

Greenwich, CT - Thursday, March 30, 2017 – Following a comprehensive national search, the Board of Education (BOE) today appointed Dr. Jill M. Gildea as the Superintendent of the Greenwich Public Schools (GPS), effective July 1, 2017. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Gildea, an experienced educator with demonstrated success in improving student achievement, personalizing learning, fiscal management, and enhancing family and community engagement.

Board of Education Chair Mr. Peter Sherr said, "After conducting an extensive national search, we are confident in our appointment of Dr. Gildea as a recognized leader in improving student performance for all students through personalized learning and evidence-based management."

Currently Superintendent of Schools for Fremont School District 79 in Mundelein, IL, Dr. Gildea was selected from a national pool of highly qualified candidates as part of the search process led by Ray and Associates. Dr. Gildea exemplifies the qualities the Greenwich community identified as those they would like to see in a leader – an experienced Superintendent with demonstrated transformational leadership skills capable of implementing the District's strategic plan toward improving student performance. She has a proven track record in managing school districts using data-driven decision-making and sound fiscal practices, working collaboratively with staff and parent groups, as well as with local township governments to fund educational needs.

"Confirmed in reference checks conducted by each Board member, Dr. Gildea exhibited a superior knowledge base of personalized learning and drivers of student achievement. This knowledge base, combined with her experience, communication skills and extensive professional credentials set her apart from other qualified candidates," said Board Superintendent Search Committee Chair, Ms. Laura Erickson.

Dr. Gildea impressed the Board of Education as a strong educational practitioner and thought-leader, well-versed in the national conversation on personalized learning. She has a keen understanding of what it takes to manage systemic change in order to achieve student growth and improve performance, create a master plan for facilities and managerial systems, and to enhance communications and family and community engagement.

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Dan Domenech, Executive Director of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), shared with the Greenwich BOE, "Jill Gildea is an outstanding educational leader and a champion for children and public education. She will work closely with the Greenwich Board, staff, parents, students and the community at large to maintain and improve the high quality of education that has been a hallmark of that school system."

Of her appointment, Dr. Gildea said, "I'm honored to join the Greenwich Public Schools and to work collectively on the important visionary and strategic work of an exemplary system. From my perspective in visiting other districts across the country through my work with a variety of national organizations, I believe the GPS Strategic Plan sets a compelling course for student-centered and future-focused schools. Greenwich is a healthy, vibrant community committed to success for all students. I believe, taken together, these components can close pervasive gaps in achievement and improve performance for all students. I look forward to leading the District toward this end."

Dr. Gildea's entry plan will include time in the District prior to her July 1 start date. Dr. Sal Corda, Interim Superintendent said, "I will do all that I can to ensure a smooth transition. I have really enjoyed my time in this exceptional District and offer my congratulations to Dr. Gildea."

Dr. Gildea and her husband, Greg Gildea, have four children (three adult children and one that will attend Greenwich High School), two dogs and look very much forward to participating in the work and life of the vibrant Greenwich community.

About Greenwich Public Schools:

The Greenwich Public Schools include eleven neighborhood elementary schools (K-5), three middle schools (6-8), one high school, and one alternative high school for approximately 8,900 students. Students are assigned to elementary and middle schools based on residential attendance areas. Four of the elementary schools and one middle school serve as partial magnet schools, offering programmatic choice for families.

The GPS curriculum, programs and services provide for academic excellence and student well-being. The Mission of the Greenwich Public Schools is to educate all students to the highest levels of academic achievement; enable them to reach and expand their potential; and prepare them to become productive, responsible, ethical, creative and compassionate members of society.

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