



*"Where the Focus is on the Child"*

## Mark R. Cross selected as the next Superintendent of Schools

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

### **For Immediate Release**

The Cass School District 63 Board of Education is pleased to announce that on Tuesday, December 17, they selected Mark R. Cross as the next Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2020. Mr. Cross will replace Kerry J. Foderaro who is retiring at the end of 2019/20 school year, after 15 years as the Superintendent of Schools.



The Board of Education contracted an executive search firm to assist in the year-long plus selection process. Engagement activities with school families, staff, students, the District's parent organization - CARE, community leaders and the community at large allowed the executive search firm to secure critical input in the development of the ideal leadership profile desired for the next Superintendent of Schools. This profile was utilized as a guiding framework to assess over 40 candidates who applied for the Superintendent of Schools' position.

"The Board of Education is grateful to the many individuals who contributed to this important selection process. We are pleased we were able to secure the very talented and experienced Mr. Cross. He will be a great asset to the District," stated Shelly Camden, President of the Board of Education.

Mr. Cross has 28 years of experience as a successful and effective educator, including serving for the previous 15 years as Superintendent of Schools at Peru Elementary School District 124. He previously served as Superintendent at Spring Valley Elementary School District 99 and prior to that he was a Regional Office of Education Assistant Superintendent, School Principal and Special Education Teacher.

Mr. Cross earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, as well as his Superintendent and Chief School Business Official endorsements from Illinois State University. In addition to his work as a Superintendent, he has served as an Adjunct Instructor in the Educational Leadership Programs at Aurora University and the University of St. Francis.

Mr. Cross' wife Ronda currently serves as a School Principal in Putnam County School District 535. They have two adult children and one grandchild who reside in the western suburbs.

"It is an incredible honor to serve as the next Superintendent of Schools in Cass School District 63. I am so excited to meet the students and staff and I truly look forward to working with everyone to do what is best for our students and build on this wonderful District's rich tradition of academic excellence," said Mark Cross.

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