

# BETHANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Colleen Murray, *Superintendent*

October 19, 2021

### Greetings from the Bethany Board of Education!

We note with both appreciation and sorrow that our Superintendent, Colleen Murray, has announced her intention to retire at the end of the current school year. We acknowledge, with gratitude, Mrs. Murray's seven years at the helm of the Bethany school district. She has brought the Bethany Community School forward in countless ways, leading progress in educating our kids, bolstering support for social and emotional learning and health, maintaining and enhancing our facilities, and recruiting and developing leaders and staff that are the envy of our neighbors. And, most obviously, she has navigated the unprecedented challenges created by the pandemic over the past two years, keeping our kids in school when many did not think it possible. We will be profoundly regretful to see her go, but after a 40-year career in education, she has earned a restful retirement. We wish her well.

This month we are initiating the process to identify a replacement for Mrs. Murray. The search committee will consist of the full Board of Education, as your elected representatives. We seek input from all stakeholders in the community. To gather your views about what we should be looking for in the District's next leader, we encourage you to complete the [Superintendent Search Survey](#) by November 3rd at noon and attend a focus group discussion on Wednesday, November 3rd at 6:30 pm in the BCS Gymnasium. Mrs. Murray herself will coordinate the search process, which will benefit from her experience and vision. The information we collect will be used to formulate a detailed description of what Bethany is looking for in applicants for this position. We plan to evaluate and interview candidates over the coming months.

Please keep an eye out for the reminders and focus group information. We hope that you will share your views. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in partnership,

Christopher Pittenger, Chair  
Amy Lestinsky, Vice Chair

For the Bethany Board of Education