

NORTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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John A. Provost, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Nick Bernier, M.Ed.
Business Administrator

May 20, 2022

Dear R.K. Finn Ryan Road Community:

As you know Principal Madden will be retiring at the end of the current school year. Over the past several weeks, a screening committee led by Principal Choquette and Principal Wenz and including a diverse group of caregivers, administrators, teachers, and school council and PTO members has been meeting to review applicants to replace Principal Madden. This group has unanimously recommended Karen Albano as the sole candidate I should consider to be the next leader of R.K. Finn Ryan Road Elementary School. Ms. Albano is the Director of Curriculum and Assessment for the Northampton Public Schools. She previously served as Principal of Phelps Elementary School in Agawam. She works with me in our central office. I have come to admire her deep knowledge of curriculum and ability to work collaboratively with diverse stakeholder groups. As someone who is thoroughly familiar with our instructional goals and who has built strong relationships with school personnel, I believe she will be able to "hit the ground running". I will support the transition by giving her the opportunity to work with Principal Madden over the course of the next several weeks.

Principal Madden has built a wonderful team and culture at her school, and I have been hoping to find someone who would be able to continue and build on her work. I am confident that Ms. Albano is the right person for the job.

Before finalizing the appointment, I would like to give everyone an opportunity to meet her and offer any feedback they have. Accordingly, I have scheduled a meeting for school staff next Wednesday, May 25th at 2:15 p.m. and a meeting for all members of the R.K. Finn Ryan Road Community next Wednesday, May 25th at 5:30 p.m.. If you are available, I hope you will come to the school to meet Ms. Albano. I know she is eager to meet all of you.

Sincerely,


John A. Provost, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools