

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Kaye Griffin
griffinkaye@hotmail.com
Cell: 860-694-9795

Salem Public Schools Appoints Joseph Onofrio Next School Superintendent

The Salem Board of Education has selected Joseph Onofrio II to be the new school superintendent. Onofrio comes to Salem from Old Saybrook where he has been the superintendent since 2006.

Fourteen candidates applied for the part-time position of superintendent of schools, a three-day per week year-round position. The search committee selected six candidates for interviews based on desirable characteristics and attributes of a new superintendent that were identified in the Salem Community Profile Assessment Report that was developed through focus group input and online survey research conducted in March.

Steve Buck, Chairman of the Salem Board of Education, states that "the Salem Board is extremely pleased to have concluded the superintendent search led by CES with the unanimous Board selection of Joseph Onofrio. Joe brings a wealth of experience to his new position, with an especially strong focus on building school culture and academic excellence. He has demonstrated that he has the vision and skill required to lead the Salem School District forward in a time of shrinking enrollment and continued economic uncertainty."

Onofrio is a graduate of the University of Bridgeport and Southern Connecticut State University. He received his superintendent certification through the educational leadership program at Southern Connecticut State University.

He began his career as a Band Director at Notre Dame High School in West Haven in 1970. Since then he has served as an English teacher, reading director, guidance counselor, family therapist, and director of pupil and professional services in various school districts throughout Connecticut.

Joe Onofrio, on learning that he had been selected by the Salem Board of Education, "I am deeply honored to be selected as the Superintendent of Schools for the Salem School District. As a future member of a passionate leadership team of The Board of Education and the administrators, I truly look forward to working with the team and the entire devoted staff in partnership with a school community dedicated to academic excellence and the education of the whole child."

In 2011, Onofrio was recognized with the Healthy Community Healthy Youth Asset Builder Recognition Award for his lifetime dedication and support of our youth.

He is a member of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), the Middlesex Shoreline Superintendents Association (MSSA), the American Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR), the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (AAMFT), the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), and the American Federation of Musicians (AFM).

Onofrio was born and raised in New Haven, CT and is currently a resident of Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

Onofrio will serve as Salem's new school superintendent beginning this fall. His base salary for the three-day per week position will be \$64,906. The comprehensive compensation package offered by the Salem Board of Education also includes an annuity, travel reimbursement, and health care benefits.

C.E.S. Executive Search Services coordinated the Board of Education's search for Salem's new school superintendent.