



## PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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July 19, 2021

Parents, Guardians, Students, & Community Members,

I wanted to provide all of you with an update regarding the recommended candidate for the Palmer/Parkside principal position.

First, I would like to thank those of you who took the time to complete the Principal Search Input and Feedback Form. Your participation and input in this process were greatly appreciated. Ms. Schuler and I reviewed all the responses that you submitted as well as the responses from our Palmer and Parkside employees. We used that information to help develop questions for both rounds of the interview process.

Next, I would like to thank the Palmer/Parkside employees who volunteered their time to be part of our Round 1 interview committee. Their input and participation in the process was extremely valuable and greatly appreciated:

Butch Acierno, teacher  
Tina Manning, guidance counselor  
Michelle Muffley, teacher  
Nik Mullen, teacher  
April Pilz, instructional assistant  
Lori Schaffer, secretary  
Holly Sell, teacher  
Lynn Sutton, teacher  
Mary K. Writer, school psychologist

### **Round 1 Information:**

After the paper screening, six candidates were selected for a Round 1 interview. One candidate cancelled on the day of the interviews, so five candidates were interviewed during Round 1. The committee narrowed the field down to three candidates for Round 2.

### **Round 2 Information:**

One of the three Round 2 candidates declined a second interview. Therefore, interviews were held with our final two candidates last week. Final interviews consisted of two parts:

#### Part 1- Data Review:

Candidates were provided with building, district, and statewide data from the Future Ready PA Index and a set of questions. Each candidate was given 20 minutes to review the data and prepare responses to a set of questions. They presented their analysis and responses during Part 2 of the interview process.

Part 2- Q&A:

Candidates were asked over 30 detailed and specific questions during the Q&A portion of the interviews. These questions were a result of Round 1 committee feedback as well as some additional questions based on the employee and parent survey results. At the conclusion of the Q&A portion of the interview process, the candidates presented their data analysis from Part 1.

**Recommendation:**

The candidate being recommended to the school board for approval is Mr. Ralph Andrews. His recommendation is on the July 20, 2021 school board agenda. Some of you may know Mr. Andrews because he was a teacher in the Palmerton Area School District from 2012-2019. Currently, he is an administrator at the Roberto Clemente Charter School in Allentown.

Thanks to a collaborative effort between the administration, faculty and staff, and parents/guardians, I believe we found another great leader for Palmer and Parkside. Pending school board approval at this week's meeting, Mr. Andrews will begin on August 1, 2021.

Thank you,



Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D.  
Superintendent