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The District is pleased to welcome **Chris Rauscher** as Associate Superintendent of Learning; **Jay Marino** as Associate Superintendent of Organizational Effectiveness and Accountability; and **Dr. Bruce Brotzman** as Executive Administrator for Secondary Education. All three will join the District team on July 1.



“I was pleased with the selection process that yielded three high quality and experienced administrators,” explains Dr. Dave Markward, Superintendent. “Each position drew between 30 and 35 applicants. After completing paper screening and thorough background and reference checks, teams of 9-11 members conducted interviews, reviewed candidate writing samples, and applied quality tools to make their final selections.”

Click [here](#) for more.

Introducing New District Administrators

Chris Rauscher earned her PhD in Curriculum, Educational Administration, and Reading; and her MA in Elementary Education from the University of Iowa. She received her BA in Elementary Education from Iowa Wesleyan College.

Rauscher most recently held the position of Assistant Superintendent for Instructional and Special Services at Palatine, Illinois. Other positions have included Assistant Superintendent of Learning in Hinsdale, Illinois and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum in Naperville, Illinois.

Her professional contributions have included the development and deployment of a curricular approach resulting in increased student achievement, helping teachers grow professionally through a systematic program of professional development focused on quality instruction, and the coordination and implementation of a successful reading intervention program.

“Chris has a proven track record of designing and directing programs that have improved student achievement in the districts where she has worked,” noted Markward. “She has helped teachers to grow through a systematic program of professional development. Last fall Chris presented a workshop on successful early reading intervention to Cedar Rapids principals and reading facilitators that was well-received.”

Jay Marino will receive his Educational Specialist Degree from Western Illinois University in Educational Administration this year. He earned his MA in Educational Administration from Arizona State University and received a BA in Elementary Education from the University of Northern Iowa.

Marino joins the district following a recent tenure as Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and School Improvement for the Rock Island Illinois School District. He has also held positions in the Montcalm Area School District in Stanton, Michigan as Director of Instruction and Technology, Director of Technology, and Assistant Principal/District Special Education Coordinator.

Marino was trained by David Langford and the American Society for Quality (ASQ) in continuous improvement processes and quality tools. He is an ASQ certified Koalaty Kid Trainer and an examiner for the State of Illinois Quality Award. In 2004, the American Society for Quality published a book that he co-authored titled *Quality Across the Curriculum; Integrating Quality Tools and PDSA with Standards*.

“Jay brings extensive experience in the use of Malcolm Baldrige Performance Excellence principles,” Markward explained. “His experience as a director of technology, as well as an assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, add to his base of knowledge. He is a published editor and presenter at the local, state and national levels on continuous improvement and quality tools and processes.”

Dr. Bruce Brotzman received his Ed.D in Educational Administration from the University of Illinois, an MS in Educational Administration from Illinois University, and a BS in Physical Education from the University of Wisconsin.

He most recently worked as Principal of the Rock Bridge High School in Columbia, Missouri. He also served as principal at Robinson High School in Robinson, Illinois; and Grant Park High School in Grant Park, Illinois. He was Assistant Principal and Athletic Director for the South Beloit High School in South Beloit, Illinois.

Dr. Brotzman initiated a Professional Learning Teams approach to continuous improvement and professional development, implemented the MAC (Minority Achievement Committee) Scholar Program to focus the boosting of African-American achievement; developed a Partner in Education Program that has been recognized as among the largest in the nation; created the Parent Coalition, a quarterly forum for engaging parents regarding key school issues; implemented a collaborative, shared governance structure in a comprehensive high school; established Summer LitPrep and Summer Transition Programs to support and assist at-risk students. He is a charter member of the Missouri Professional Learning Communities network and a past president of the Association of Illinois High Schools. Brotzman was also a 1984 Finalist at the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Trials.

“Bruce has utilized the Professional Learning Teams approach for student improvement in Rock Bridge High School,” Markward noted. “This highly collaborative and focused set of strategies to improve student learning has generated a lot of interest and success across the country. Bruce has also implemented a minority achievement initiative to boost African American student achievement, one of the largest partners in education programs in the country, as well as transition programs to assist at-risk students.”

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