

Board of Education

December 21, 2018

Dear La Grange Highlands District 106 Community:

On behalf of the Highlands' Board of Education, I am pleased to announce we will be approving Dr. Amy Warke as the district's next superintendent. Dr. Warke was selected from a highly qualified group of candidates that we were proud to attract. Her energy and enthusiasm for students and learning will allow us continuous growth and success for our students and staff. The Board was clear with all of the candidates that they would be stepping into big shoes, and we are confident that Dr. Warke is the right person to lead the district forward.

Dr. Warke comes to Highlands from Oak Park Elementary School District 97 where she has served as the Chief Academic and Accountability Officer since 2016. In her current role, she holds a variety of responsibilities, including overseeing the teaching and learning department, supporting and evaluating directors and principals, implementing curricular programs and resources, facilitating school improvement planning and Professional Learning Communities, and serving as the district's English Learner director. Prior to her current position, Dr. Warke was the Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Instruction in Flossmoor School District 161 from 2011 to 2016, and served as a principal in CCSD 89 (2005 to 2011) and in Summit Hill District 161 (2003 to 2005). Prior to those experiences, she was an assistant principal and teacher.

Dr. Warke earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Special Education from Illinois State University. In addition, in 2012 she earned a doctorate degree in Educational Organization and Leadership from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Her husband, Christopher, is a Project Manager/Estimator for Taylor Electric Company in Chicago. They have two children. Collin is in his first year teaching 6th grade science in a middle school in Indiana, and Abbey is a senior at Iowa State University and will graduate with a Bachelor Degree in Environmental Science in May.

"I feel very fortunate about the opportunity to work with the students, staff, parents, community, and Board of Education in the LaGrange Highlands District," stated Dr. Warke. "I am both honored and excited to work with the entire community to continue build on the strengths of the district."

Dr. Warke's transition plan to our district will include an opportunity to meet staff and parents. This will be planned and announced after winter break. Dr. Viniard, who will retire June 30, 2019, will ensure a successful transition for all as the district begins a new chapter.

Sincerely,



Bob Hiatt
President, Board of Education