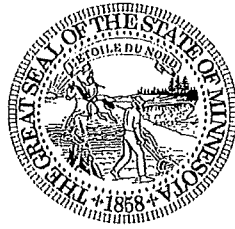


STATE OF MINNESOTA



TIM WALZ
GOVERNOR

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT RECEIVED

Steven Unowsky JUL 25 2019

5018 Emerson Avenue South President of the Senate
Minneapolis, MN 55419
County of Hennepin
Congressional District 5

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

GREATER MINNESOTA AREA TEACHER

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

Effective: July 2, 2019

Term Expires: January 2, 2023

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, June 27, 2019.



Governor

Secretary of State

Replacing: Loy Woelber

December 17, 2018

Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board
1500 Highway 36
Roseville, MN 55113

Dear Governor Walz:

It is with great enthusiasm that I apply for the position of metro superintendent representative to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board. As a superintendent who is highly dedicated to the field of education and the quality of the licensed educators, I believe that this opportunity is a strong match for my leadership, vision, experience and skills. I would be honored to be considered for this position.

I have spent my entire career in education and could bring a unique set of experiences to this role. Initially I received my bachelor's degree in Child Psychology and my master's in Educational Psychology with training as a counselor. Using my degrees I began working in private education, filling many roles including that of a non-traditionally prepared teacher and administrator. Looking back, I recognize that my teaching skills needed improvement and could have been supported greatly through added training, experience and licensure in all areas where I worked.

When I went to school to receive my principal license I began to truly understand the importance of training and preparation. My courses trained me to successfully lead schools and I used this knowledge as an international educator in Saudi Arabia before returning to Minnesota as a principal in Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS). Trying to remediate my own lack of depth of knowledge, I went to every possible Saint Paul teacher training to gain a much deeper understanding of teaching.

Since that time I have participated in a wide range of teacher and administrative licensure, preparation and leadership programs. I served as Director of Leadership Development and Assistant Superintendent for SPPS and worked to create and support the pipeline of diverse, highly prepared school leaders. I oversaw the SPPS Peer Mentor programs, served as a district wide teacher evaluator, led partnerships with teacher preparation programs throughout the metro and helped improve the quality of the licensed SPPS workforce.

As superintendent of Richfield Public Schools I have continued my commitment to supporting and improving the quality of licensed educators. We launched partnerships with local colleges and universities to improve preparation of newly licensed teachers that led to an increase of diversity of our licensed teaching staff of over 4% in this year alone. I have supported the University of Minnesota preparation programs through serving on superintendent licensure panels along with being a frequent speaker in administrative licensure classes.

I believe that my unique set of experiences and preparation make me a highly qualified candidate for this opening on the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board. It would be an honor to be chosen to serve the state of Minnesota in our quest to improve the quality, diversity and preparation of our licensed educators. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any further information or questions you may have related to my possible candidacy for this opening.

Sincerely,

Steve Unowsky
Superintendent, Richfield Public Schools

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JUL 25 2019

President of the Senate

Steven Unowsky

7001 Harriet Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423 (612)798-6011
steven.unowsky@rpsmn.org

EXPERIENCE:

Superintendent

District Office – Richfield Public Schools – Richfield, MN

- Oversees 4,400 students in a public school district
- Led communication for 4 successful referendum questions including \$450 per student increase and \$89 million capital facility bond
- Launched Community Education and Early Childhood programming
- Increased equity of access to gifted services and college credit bearing courses for all students
- Improved graduation rate while making progress on closing achievement gaps
- Consistently improves ACT scores for high school students
- Added time to the school day to support student learning
- Changed start times to support student learning
- Increased staff of color, including licensed staff
- Evaluates and supervises cabinet members and principals
- Increased fund balance from under the board directed 4-8% target to 6.7%
- Received recognition through Reimagine Minnesota for statewide equity work

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Assistant Superintendent

District Office – Saint Paul Public Schools – Saint Paul, MN

- Supervised multiple schools grades Prek-12
- Oversaw elementary, middle, and high school sites including over 9,000 students
- Improved achievement at middle school, leading to closing the gap between SPPS and the State of Minnesota by 6 points in MCA-3 math proficiency
- Evaluated and supervised principals and assistant principals
- Led principal selection process
- Oversaw large scale transition of 5,000 new students in to middle school, creating "Camp 67" for all incoming students
- Lead overhaul of junior high system to become middle school model
- Increased enrollment and market share of Saint Paul students at middle level
- Managed budget and staffing process of over \$50 million
- Participated in negotiations, school board, and strategic planning teams
- Provided planning and implementation of new Montessori middle school
- Led vision card efforts connected to middle level education
- Oversaw multiple SPPS partnerships including Traveler's and Bush Foundations

President of the Senate

Director, Office of Leadership Development

District Office – Saint Paul Public Schools – Saint Paul, MN

- Led Offices of Leadership Development and Academic Support
- Oversaw principal professional development
- Led all assistant principal/intern professional development
- Facilitated assistant superintendent Professional Learning Community (PLC)
- Led principal and teacher evaluation process revisions and implementation
- Mentored and coached current principals
- Coordinated multiple district partnerships including University of Minnesota
- Wrote and led implementation of State Turnaround Grants and efforts
- Managed \$1.5 million grant budget
- Created system for identifying, licensing and supporting future leaders
- Presented to superintendent and school board on multiple occasions
- Oversaw all student teaching placement and processes
- Supervised first year teachers and Peer Assistance Review Program (PAR)

Steven Unowsky

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steven.unowsky@rpsmn.org

Principal K-8

Linwood Monroe Arts Plus – Saint Paul Public Schools – Saint Paul, MN

- Successfully oversaw Saint Paul's first No Child Left Behind school restructure
- Increased MCA-2 student proficiency by 20+ points
- Increased school enrollment by 200+ students
- Mentored multiple principals in teacher evaluation and improvement plan processes
- Led principal PLC meetings at a district wide level
- Mentored and assisted principals in merge and co-location processes
- Led secondary principal staff meetings and PLC meetings
- Modeled and taught data analysis to secondary principals
- Wrote and received over \$100,000 in grants

Principal K-6

Linwood A+ Elementary – Saint Paul Public Schools – Saint Paul, MN

- Led highly successful elementary school
- Increased MCA-2 student proficiency each year
- Increased school enrollment each year
- Created model school used for district expansion and replication
- Hosted national and international dignitaries to share education practices
- Created special education and ELL inclusion models for the district
- Expanded arts partnerships with the Perpich Center and Ordway Center
- Led district arts education teams
- Lead Summer School Principal for multiple years across multiple schools

Assistant Principal 6-9

Dhahran Middle School – ARAMCO Schools, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

- Led 550 student middle school with students representing over 50 countries
- Mentored and evaluated professional teaching staff
- Oversaw all aspects of curriculum development and staff development
- Developed and led SCIP School Continuous Improvement Plan processes
- Maintained school discipline and determined discipline policies
- Directed Special Services programs and policies
- Provided leadership for all operational areas of the school

Assistant Principal K-8

Annunciation School – Minneapolis, MN

Teacher

Annunciation School – Minneapolis, MN

- K-8 Technology (1997-2000)
- Middle School Social Studies (1998-1999)
- Middle School Language Arts (1997-1998)

School Counselor

Aquila Primary Center – Saint Louis Park, MN

- Provided counseling for K-3 primary school

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JUL 25 2019

President of the Senate

Steven Unowsky

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EDUCATION:

Education Leadership Doctorate 4.0 GPA Anticipated 1/2019
Saint Mary's University – Minneapolis, MN

Superintendent Licensure 4.0 GPA
Minnesota State University – Mankato, MN

- Minnesota Superintendent License, File Number 402394

Education Administration Licensure 4.0 GPA
Saint Mary's University – Minneapolis, MN

- Minnesota K-12 Principal License, File Number 402394

M.A. Educational Psychology 3.8 GPA
University of Minnesota – Minneapolis, MN

- Department of Counseling and Student Personnel Psychology

B.A. Child Psychology 3.3 GPA
University of Minnesota – Minneapolis, MN

- Department of Child Psychology

MEMBERSHIPS/RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Award for Excellence Multiple Award Winner six years

Minnesota Principal's Academy Mpls/St. Paul NISL Cohort 2009-10

MASA Nominations and Foundation Committee Member

AMSD Executive/Legislative Committee Member

Metro ECSU Executive Committee Member

MESPA Previous Member

MESPA Retirement Committee Chair

MESPA Negotiations Committee Chair

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