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BPS to hold final interviews with candidates for superintendent

By Mary Beth Almond
C & G Staff Writer

BIRMINGHAM — Each of the three candidates for Birmingham Public Schools superintendent will spend an entire day and evening with the district during their separate final interviews on Oct. 8, 9 and 10.

BPS Director of Community Relations Marcia Wilkinson said the candidates would each have an “intense day” within the district.

Their separate daily schedules will include visiting three BPS schools in the morning, meeting with school and community groups in the afternoon, attending a community reception in the early evening and ending the day with their final interviews with the Board of Education.

“This will provide people with the opportunity to meet the candidates, and then each night the candidates will have their final interviews with the board here at the administration building at 8 p.m. — which is an open meeting that will be televised,” said Wilkinson. “At each community reception and board meeting the public can turn in a comment card.”

The three final interviews will be broadcast on BPS Channel 17 on Thursday, Oct. 11 and Friday, Oct. 12 and the schedule for broadcasting will be posted on the BPS Web site.

On Monday, Oct. 8, the community is invited to attend the community reception for Superintendent of Hanover Community School Corporation Michael Livovich at the administration building from 5-6 p.m. as well as his final interview with board at the administration building at 8 p.m.

Livovich, who began his career as a high school instructor with Porter County Special Education Cooperative in Valparaiso, Ind., has served as the current superintendent for Hanover Community School Corp. in Cedar Lake, Ind., since 2002. Before taking that position, he served as superintendent of schools for Adams Central Community Schools in Monroe, Ind. A statement released by BPS said his background also includes: director of special education, Schererville, Ind., from 1980-1999; director of special education, Knightsville Ind., from 1978-1980; and supervisor of special education programs, Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative, Sunman, Ind., from 1977-1978. He holds a Ph.D. in educational leadership, administration and foundations from Indiana State University; a director of special education certificate; and a master's degree and bachelor's degree from Ball State University in Muncie, Ind.

On Tuesday, Oct. 9, the community is invited to attend the community reception for BPS Deputy Superintendent for Educational Services Paul DeAngelis at the administration building from 5-6 p.m. as well as his final interview with Board at the administration building at 8 p.m.

DeAngelis, who began his career in education in the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools district as a math teacher, has been with Birmingham Public Schools since October 2006. Prior to assuming his current position, he served as director of community education for Huron Valley Schools from 2004-2006 and as principal of Milford High School from 2001- 2004. A statement released by BPS said he has an education specialist degree in educational leadership from Oakland University; a master's in public administration from the University of Michigan, Dearborn; and a bachelor of arts in mathematics from the University of Detroit.

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, the community is invited to attend the community reception for Superintendent of Harbor Springs Schools David Larson at the administration building from 5-6 p.m. as well as his final interview with the board at the administration building at 8 p.m.

Larson, who began his educational career as a government, world history and economics teacher in Florida, has been superintendent of Harbor Springs Public Schools in Harbor Springs since 1999. A statement released by BPS said his background also includes: principal of Mount Pleasant High School from 1993-1999; deputy principal for the Singapore American School, Republic of Singapore, from 1990-1993; and assistant principal of Crestwood Middle School in Palm Beach, Fla., from 1985-1990. Larson holds

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a doctor of education degree in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University, Fla.; a master of science in administration and supervision also from Nova Southeastern; and a bachelor of science in social studies from Asbury College in Kentucky.

The Board of Education plans to hold their next meeting on the superintendent search on Monday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. at the administration building.

“Our most important job is hiring the superintendent, and we take this job very seriously,” said BPS Board of Education President Michael Fenberg.

The BPS superintendent position became available upon the retirement of John Hoeffler on Aug. 1.

The BPS Administration Building is located at 550 West Merrill in Birmingham. Comments or questions can be sent to birminghamboardofeducation@birmingham.k12.mi.us.

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