



1516 Sycamore Street
Bethlehem, PA 18017

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2010

The Bethlehem Area School District Board will convene in Special Board Meeting on Monday, July 12, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., at Broughal Middle School, Auxiliary Gym to vote to hire Joseph J. Roy, Ed.D., as superintendent. Announcement of the board's intent was made by Irene Follweiler, chair of its Human Resources Committee. Follweiler called Roy "the best choice for Bethlehem" and said that while the board had interviewed many candidates, Roy had not only the necessary qualifications, but also the leadership qualities and enthusiasm the school directors believe "are critical for the district during these challenging times."

Roy, a former Liberty High School assistant principal, was the only candidate invited to meet the community at a special public meeting on June 7. Follweiler, who called the community response very positive, said at the time that of the pool of 15 applicants, the board chose Roy as its principal candidate because of "the leadership he has demonstrated throughout his career, what colleagues describe as an ability to inspire high performance and dedication in everyone with whom he works, and his ability to connect with and bring together students, parents, faculty and staff, and the larger community."

In addition to serving as Liberty's assistant principal, Roy also taught in the East Penn School District and was principal at Palisades High School in Bucks County and Springfield Township High School in Montgomery County, and served as Assistant Superintendent of the School District of Springfield Township. He is currently principal at Upper Moreland High School in Willow Grove. According to Follweiler, Roy has never lost his attachment to the Lehigh Valley and his particular affinity for Bethlehem Area School District.

At Springfield Roy spearheaded a school and community initiative to examine and address issues associated with diversity and received both the Communicator of the Year Award from the National School Public Relations Association and the Administrator of the Year Award from the National School Library Journal. He was named 2004 Multicultural Educator of the Year by the Montgomery County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission. At Palisades, he led the development of the Palisades Academy, a school-within-a-school aimed at motivating students at risk of "falling through the cracks."

Roy is an alumnus of Franklin and Marshall College. He holds a master's in educational administration from Bucknell University and received his doctorate from Lehigh University.