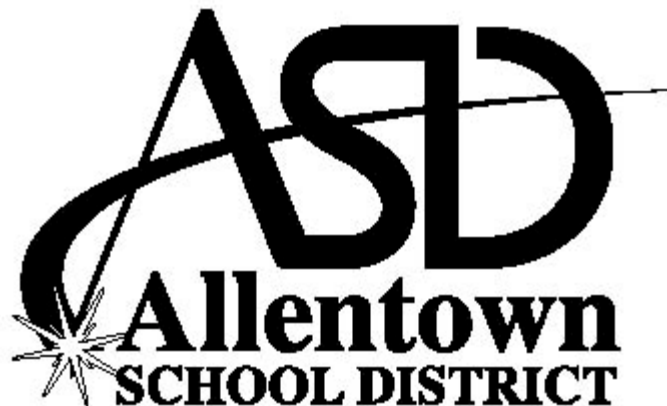


For immediate release

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**ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
REPORTS PROGRESS ON SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH**

(Allentown, PA, May 15, 2002) – In its continuation of the search for a new superintendent, school officials of Allentown School District have invited three candidates to the District May 15 for a day of structured interview activities. The candidates, selected from an initial field of thirty-two individuals, are coming to Allentown in order to learn more about the District, tour the schools and be interviewed by several groups including the school board, a group of community leaders and parents, and one representing principals, teachers and support personnel.

"We view this day as an important step forward in our search for a new superintendent," says Pat Hoffman, president of the Allentown School Board. "The agenda for the day is very tightly scheduled so that the candidates may get the most out of their time here and so that school officials and citizens have the chance to interview them." A round robin approach to meetings and school tours has been prepared, with each candidate touring schools and taking meetings throughout the day. The meetings and interviews with the school board, the parents/community

group and the group representing employees are in the evening. The Morning Call has been invited to cover and report on each candidate's meeting with community leaders and parents.

The ASD board of directors has engaged the services of SchoolMatch to conduct the national search for the new superintendent. The candidates that the ASD school board has invited to Allentown are as follows:

-Karen S. Angello, Ph.D., is an educational consultant to the Massachusetts Department of Education and several school districts in the areas of accountability and instructional effectiveness. She has been a superintendent in two urban school districts and has total of 8 years of experience as superintendent. She has also been a reading specialist and teacher of special needs children. She has a Ph.D. in Administration, Curriculum and Supervision in Education. She also has an M.A. in Special Education.

-Betty Cox, Ed.D., J.D., is currently Vice President of Operations, Edison Schools, Inc., New York City, NY. She also has served as superintendent of schools, Rapides Parish School District, Alexandria, Louisiana and Darlington School District, Darlington, SC. She has had 8 years of experience as a superintendent including two years at Towanda, PA. She has also been a principal, college instructor and teacher. She holds a doctorate of education from the University of Tennessee and a doctorate of law from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA. She has considerable experience in urban school districts.

-Henry P. Williams, Ed.D., is presently with Education Services, Inc., Creve Coeur, Missouri. Prior to this, he served as superintendent of schools in Kansas City, MO and in Little Rock, AR. He has had 10 years of experience as a superintendent. He has also served as a principal, college lecturer and deputy superintendent in Roanoke, VA. He has a doctorate from State University of New York, Buffalo, NY. He has extensive experience in urban school districts.

As the third largest district in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Allentown School District educates approximately 16,500 students, and employs over 2,000 administrators, professionals, staff members and employees. The District, founded in 1866, is implementing an Empowerment plan to remove it from the Commonwealth's distressed list. With over 60 percent of ASD households qualifying as low income versus the state average of 26.8 percent, the District is involved in many education reform initiatives related to community and student services.

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Note to media: You are invited to meet with School Board President, Pat Hoffman, at 3:45-4:00 pm in the ASD Administration lobby for comments on the day's events.