

Centennial makes several administrative moves

By Gary Weckselblatt Staff Writer | Posted: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 10:00 pm

The Centennial school board made several key administrative moves Tuesday night, including extending the terms for the district's acting superintendent and interim business manager for the remainder of the calendar year.

Jennifer Polinchock, whom the school board originally promoted to acting superintendent through June 30, can now retain that position for the rest of 2015 as the search for a superintendent to replace Joyce Mundy continues.

School directors met with three superintendent candidates in executive session following Tuesday night's board meeting, and plan to meet with five more candidates Wednesday.

"This school board is working very hard to continue on with the great success that we've had," said Jane Schrader Lynch, the board's president.

In the meantime, Polinchock, the former director of teaching and learning, will become the temporary face of the district. When a new superintendent is hired and begins working, Polinchock will become assistant superintendent.

Mundy, who resigned in April, originally scheduled her last day for Aug. 7. That plan changed, however, and "she will not be returning," said Mark Miller, vice president of the school board. "We appreciate her service."

Lynch said, "The board of school directors wishes Dr. Mundy all the best in her new career and new setting."

Katie Braun had been assistant business manager until February when she was promoted to interim business manager. Like Polinchock, she will hold that position through 2015 unless the board names a permanent business manager beforehand.

The loudest noise for a board move was reserved for Michael VanBuren, who will become principal of McDonald Elementary School. VanBuren is replacing Keely Mahan, who is moving back to the classroom.

About two dozen members of the school's staff cheered VanBuren's promotion.

"Thank you school board for trusting me," said VanBuren, who called Mahan "a mentor and a friend



Centennial School District Administration Building. Bucks County Courier Times File Photo.

throughout my career.”

VanBuren, the school’s vice principal until July 1, spoke with his wife, Beth, and daughters, Madeline and Alyssa, by his side.

“They share me with 900 other children,” he said. “I would not be here without my wife, so thank you very much.”

School director Steve Adams said “We owe a debt of gratitude to Keely, and we have high hopes for Michael.”

Log College Middle School has an opening for a new principal as Cathy Perkins was named director of teaching and learning, Polinchock’s former post.

The board also named Joe Rutz of the Central Bucks School District its director of curriculum and instruction.