

Centennial names Jennifer Polinchock its acting superintendent

By Gary Weckselblatt Staff Writer | Posted: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 10:45 am

The Centennial school board promoted Jennifer Polinchock, the district's director of teaching and learning, to acting superintendent Tuesday night.

Polinchock is filling in for Superintendent Joyce Mundy, who resigned in April. Mundy's last day is Aug. 7. She is on a leave of absence until June 19 and will then use vacation time until she returns June 30.

On July 1, Polinchock's title will become assistant superintendent. Tuesday, in an 8-0 vote, the board signed off on a five-year deal with Polinchock at a starting salary of \$140,000.

"We know from what she has done in this district that she will do a superior job and make Centennial proud," Jane Schrader Lynch, the board's president, said of Polinchock.

A graduate of William Tennent High School, Polinchock was a reading language specialist in Pennridge School District before Centennial hired her two years ago. She has worked on Centennial's K-12 curriculum to ensure it meets state standards and requirements.

"I'm proud and honored with the opportunity to serve the faculty, students, community and the board," she said. "I'm very excited."

With her husband, Todd, son Nicholas and daughter Emily in the audience, Lynch told the family "If she's not home as much as you want her to be, just blame it on the rest of the members of the board."

Polinchock admitted the job "does take me away from home a lot, but when I'm home we make the most of the family time we have."

Last month, with notice of Mundy's planned departure, the district requested help from the Bucks County Intermediate Unit in its search for her replacement. On Tuesday, Lynch said there are 15 candidates for the position and she said Barry Galasso, the IU's executive director, expects that number to grow to 20 by Monday's deadline.

In addition, the board is asking for the public's input in its search for a new superintendent. Residents have through June 15 to fill out a Superintendent Search Survey regarding the strengths, challenges, goals and personal attributes to help determine which candidate will be the best fit for the district.



The Centennial School District administration building.

So far, there have been 389 responses to the survey, Lynch said.

The link to the survey, which is expected to take about 10 minutes to complete, can be found on the district's website: www.centennialsd.org.

Paper copies of the survey, also available in Spanish, are in the main offices of all Centennial schools, the Warminster Township Library, 1076 Emma Lane, and the Warminster Tax Office, 433 Centennial Road, Suite 2.

Responses are anonymous and confidential. The school board requests only one response per person.