

MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Administrative Unit #26
36 McElwain Street
Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054
Tel. (603) 424-6200 Fax (603) 424-6229

PRESS RELEASE

To: The Merrimack School District Staff and Community

From: The Merrimack School Board

RE: Update on Superintendent Search for 2022-2023

Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022

The Merrimack School Board is pleased to announce that we have entered another one-year contract with Everett “Bill” Olsen Jr., and he will stay employed as the Interim Chief Educational Officer for the Merrimack School District for the 2022-2023 academic year. At the same time, the Board has also ended the Superintendent Search with the firm McPherson and Jacobson.

Since the Coronavirus pandemic is not yet behind us, and given how it has affected our learners and so many school districts across the nation, the Board has made the decision to suspend the superintendent search at this time. We plan to instead focus our efforts on stability and key district initiatives such as the visioning task force, learning loss remediation/summer programs, social/emotional learning support and technology support. It was also apparent to the Board that in this volatile market for administrators, Merrimack would be competing for the same talent pool as many neighboring districts – putting Merrimack in a position to not get an administrator who would meet all of our rigorous expectations.

Bill joined Merrimack School District in July of 2021 with a career in education that has spanned over 50 years. Prior to joining Merrimack, Olsen was employed by the Westford Public Schools since 1986 with prior roles as Finance Director, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration, and most recently as Superintendent. In addition, Olsen also worked in the Lowell School Department for 16 years and enjoyed teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in Economics for over 30 years at various area universities. Olsen holds a master’s degree in Business Administration from Babson College, and a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Engineering from Lowell Technological Institute (University of Massachusetts Lowell).

Bill Olsen has brought a tremendous amount of stability and experience to our district this year, and we are very grateful for his exceptional leadership and guidance during these challenging times.