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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 3/27/24**JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEES ANNOUNCE THREE SUPERINTENDENT FINALISTS**

Two MA and one out-of-state finalists named for superintendent position

On March 26, the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee (RSC) and the Union 26 School Committee approved three finalists for the superintendent position. The superintendent oversees the Amherst Elementary, Pelham Elementary, and Amherst-Pelham Regional School Districts. “We are excited about the three finalists presented to us by the Search Committee,” said RSC Chair Sarahbess Kenney. “We are looking forward to bringing them to the community to meet stakeholders and tour our schools. The 19-member Search Committee, led by co-chairs Sarah Marshall and Martha Toro, did a fantastic job screening and interviewing candidates, and we are so grateful for their time, hard work, and dedication to this important search.”

The finalists will be invited to the community in April for community and staff forums, school building visits, and a public interview with the joint School Committees. Information about these visits will be posted at arps.org/suptsearch when it is available.

The finalists are:

Susan Gilson

Dr. Gilson has worked for the King Philip Regional School District (Norfolk, MA) for over 20 years, and is the current assistant superintendent. She also has experience as an elementary school educator, and middle school assistant principal and principal. Dr. Gilson has extensive experience pursuing and receiving grants to support educational programs and opportunities, including math and reading intervention, teacher mentoring, district-wide curriculum updates, and educator evaluation. Dr. Gilson holds a BA in music education and a BS in engineering from the University of Hartford, and an MA in curriculum and instruction and a PhD in cognition and instruction from the University of Connecticut.

E. Xiomara Herman

Dr. Herman has worked for the Virgin Islands Department of Education (St. Croix) for over 10 years, and is the current insular superintendent. In this role, she implemented a clear governance structure and accountability measures, as well as strengthened relationships with all stakeholders through communication and collaboration. She also has experience as an elementary educator, professional development director, curriculum and instruction director, and deputy insular superintendent. Dr. Herman holds a BA from the University of the Virgin Islands, and an MA in K-8 mathematics and science and EdD in administration leadership for teaching and learning from Walden University.

Joanne Menard

Dr. Menard is the current assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction at Holliston Public Schools. Prior to this she was the secondary principal in the Gill-Montague Regional School District. Dr. Menard also has experience as a STEM educator, curriculum/instructional coach, and elementary principal. As assistant superintendent, she created a district-wide UbD (understanding by design) curriculum mapping template, participated in the five-year strategic planning process, and created and implemented a district-wide professional development agenda. Dr. Menard holds a BS in marketing from Ohio State University, and a Master's in elementary education and a doctorate in educational leadership from Fitchburg State University.

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