

Cover Letter- Maureen F. Binienda

My experience and education best qualify me to serve as Interim Superintendent of the Brookline Public Schools. I am currently Interim Superintendent of the Easthampton Public Schools from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025. I was Interim Superintendent of the Quaboag Regional School District from August 2022 to June 30, 2023. In both these interim positions, I supervised and managed the daily operation for of the school districts. I continue to contribute to the positive culture of the schools and the district, improve the staff evaluation process, develop the school budget that supports teaching and learning, and continue to implement effective academic and social emotional strategies. I am currently transitioning the new Superintendent for Easthampton for a July 1, 2025 start date.

My education has been extensive. I have a Bachelor of Science, Summa Cum Laude, from Fitchburg University in Elementary Education, and Special Education (1976), a Master's in Education from Fitchburg State University (1981) and a MA of Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education (1992). The focus of my training at Harvard University was Administration, Planning and Social Policy.

I retired from the Worcester Public Schools in June 2022. As Superintendent, I supervised and managed the daily operations of the Worcester Public Schools, the 2nd largest city in MA, from 2016-2022. During my career as Superintendent, I provided a safe learning environment for the 24,000 students and 5000 staff by orienting staff and students to the rules and policies of the Worcester Public Schools. I managed a budget of 417 million dollars. Under my leadership, the Worcester Public Schools have been recognized for the best Early College Program in MA, a model Innovative Pathway Program, expansion of Chapter 74 Programs into the comprehensive high schools, the opening of a Dual Language School, and expanding community partnerships. I worked with the administrative team to deliver effective professional development to all Worcester Public School staff. Under my leadership, state accountability scores improved. The graduation rate was 88% with a 1.1% drop- out rate. These scores are among the best of MA urban districts. During the 6 years, I opened one new elementary school, one high school and the current building of another comprehensive high school. I worked with all building architects, and construction companies as well as with the MSBA (MA School Building Association).

I spent 38 years at South High Community School, which included my roles as Special Education teacher and Department Head, Assistant Principal for 14 years and as Principal for 8 years. As Assistant Principal and Principal, I followed a sound discipline process and reinforced procedures defined by the policy of the WPS to work with students and parents to create a positive learning environment. South High is the third most diverse high school in Massachusetts. Under my team's leadership, South High became a community of educators who set high expectations for all students and provided differentiated learning experiences that allowed all students to achieve their goals. In response to the increasing needs of our student population due to poverty, in partnership with the Family Health Center, I opened the first food pantry in the Worcester Public Schools, and relocated a clothing pantry, Andy's Attic, to South High. I also was instrumental in setting up a contract with the Optometry Department of the MA College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, where South High students received free eye exams and glasses.

I serve the Worcester community by my leadership roles on several community boards and advisories. I have built long-term relationships with these community agencies and work collaboratively daily with them to meet the needs of Worcester Public Schools families and students. Through these community partners, Worcester Public School students and staff experienced unique opportunities: to name a few- participation in Broadway Shows at Hanover Theatre, planting and harvesting at the Community Harvest Project, singing the Messiah with the Worcester Chorus through Music Worcester at Mechanics Hall,

representing MA in National Band Performances, author in residence series, STEM internships, National Dance Competitions, and playing music at Symphony Hall.

In November 2023, I was the highest vote getter in the City of Worcester for the position of Worcester School Committee member, which I currently serve with pride. I have worked with thousands of students and dedicated educators, parents, and community partners.

Sincerely,

Maureen Binienda
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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Interim Superintendent of Easthampton Public Schools
- Interim Superintendent of Quaboag Regional School District
- 6 years experience as Superintendent of the Worcester Public Schools
- 8 years experience as Principal at South High Community School
- 14 years experience as an Assistant Principal at South High Community School
- 46 years as an educator in the Worcester Public Schools
- Highly evolved interpersonal skills, as evidenced by strong communication and collaboration with a variety of constituent groups.
- A focus on results, maintaining the district's focus on achieving academic excellence while innovating to address achievement gaps.
- A creative problem solver that inspires innovation
- Proven record of leadership success and impeccable character
- Extensive education experience at the building and central office levels of building strong leadership teams
- Strong advocate for community service learning

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-2025 Interim Superintendent of the Easthampton Public School District

Chief Executive Officer, Educational Leader, and Chief Administrative Officer. Responsible for the day-to-day management of the Easthampton School District. Responsible for academic programs of excellence and accountability, management and supervision of all employees, management of budget and finance, operations, personnel management, student services, support operations, communications, and public relations, and training of the new Superintendent.

2022-2023 Interim Superintendent of the Quaboag Regional School District

Chief Executive Officer, Educational Leader, and Chief Administrative Officer. Responsible for the day-to-day management of the Quaboag School District. Responsible for academic programs of excellence and accountability, management and supervision of all employees, management of budget and finance, operations, personnel management, student services, support operations, communications, and public relations. the training of the new Superintendent.

2016-2022 Superintendent of the Worcester Public Schools (WPS)

Responsible for providing high quality instruction for 25,000 students in the WPS, MA 2nd largest school district; responsible for supervision of 5,000 employees; responsible for the development and management of a 477 million dollar fiscal budget: responsible for working with architects and construction companies for the construction of two MSBA high school construction projects; responsible for implementation of school committee policies; responsible for the daily operation of the school system.

2008-2016 Principal, South High Community School, Worcester

Responsible for exercising vision and providing leadership that appropriately involves staff, parents, students, business partners and community in the identification and accomplishment of the school's mission and goals; responsible for the knowledge and use of interpersonal skills such as oral and written communication, public relations and group dynamics; for exploring, assessing and implementing educational concepts that enhance teaching and learning under the framework of the Massachusetts Common Core of Learning; for promoting a school climate that fosters high student expectations and employs appropriate strategies that address multiple learning styles; for coordinating the School Council and serving as Co-chair, including the development and implementation of a School Improvement Plan, consistent with state law and School Committee Policy. Responsible for developing and sustaining a building and grounds maintenance program; with the Human Resource Office, responsible for developing and executing a system of personnel selection, assignments, supervision, support and evaluation which encourage professional growth in staff performance; for developing a program for personal and professional growth of staff that highlights cooperation and self-renewal with an emphasis on creativity and innovation; for implementing and executing a system of budget planning, record keeping and report-making that serves the needs of the school and community; for supervising the daily use of school facilities in the area of both academic and non-academic activities, including usage of school facilities by community groups and for implementing, supervising and evaluating student standardized testing programs as prescribed.

1994-2008 Assistant Principal / Dean of the Academy of Education, Service and Government, South High Community School, Worcester, MA.

Contribute to the optimum attendance of all students through close communications with parents, teachers, students and counselors; follow a sound discipline process and reinforce procedures defined by the policy statement of the Worcester Public Schools on student behavior; effectively supervise staff consistent with the Worcester Public School's policy and collective bargaining agreements; conduct effective public relations through continual positive promotion of the school and its students at all opportunities; assist the building principal in promoting a school climate that fosters high student expectations and employs appropriate strategies that address multiple learning styles; maintain effective coordination of day-to-day functions and activities through close communications with all departments and administrators; supervise the daily use of school facilities in the area of both academic and non-academic activities, including usage of school facilities by community groups.

2007-2008 Principal of Evening High School, Worcester Public Schools

Supervise all aspects of Evening High School: attendance, teacher support, student discipline, complete required forms.

2000-2008 Site Administrator for After School MCAS Programs, South High Community School, Worcester, MA

Supervise day to day management of the after-school programs; recruitment of eligible students, write monthly reports on services provided; implement grant requirements, procedures, and documentation. Implement, monitor, and evaluate the goals, objectives and outcomes cited in the academic support services.

1998-2016 Site Administrator for Community School After School and Evening Programs, South High Community School, Worcester, MA

Supervise day to day management of after school and evening programs. Identify available community resources and promote collaborative efforts that link resources to school. Raise funds to support community functions and activities. Write reports on services provided at South High.

1994- 1999 Special Education Curriculum Specialist, South High Community School, Worcester, MA

Oversee activities, curriculum; identify program needs and establish procedures to meet needs. Supervise the special education department. Coordinate, attend and convene IEP meetings.

1976-1994 Teacher of Moderate Special Needs, Bloomington School (1976-78); South High Community School (1978-1994) Worcester Public Schools

Write Individual Education Plans, participate as a contributing member in Team meetings, adapt and instruct special needs students in all curriculum subjects, work cooperatively with regular education staff and community support agencies.

EDUCATION

Master of Education, Harvard University, Administration, Planning and Social Policy, Cambridge, MA 1992

Master of Education, Fitchburg State College, Fitchburg, MA 1981

Bachelor of Science in Special Ed. and Elementary Ed., Fitchburg State College, Fitchburg, MA 1976

CERTIFICATION

Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent

Assistant Principal/Principal, N-6 and 7-12

Supervisor/Director

Teacher, Special Needs

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

National Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

MA Association of School Superintendents

MA Association of School Committees

PRESENTER EXPERIENCE

MA Senators and Representatives on Early College High School, Boston State House, June 2019

MA Education Delegation on Student Opportunity Act, Boston State House, May 2019

National Advanced Placement Conference, Philadelphia, July 2014

National Advanced Placement Conference, Las Vegas, July 2013

National Fulbright Conference, Cambridge, MA, October 2011

First MA Civic Engagement Conference, DCU Center, Worcester, November 2007

MA Department of Education Annual State Conference, Holy Cross College, May 2007

ASCD Conference: Community Service Learning, Chicago, April 2006

Showcase Academy CSL for MA, National Youth Conference, Philadelphia, March 2006

DOE Community Service-Learning State Conference, Holy Cross, September 2005

ASCD Conference: Small Learning Communities, Orlando, March 2005

Schools for a New Society, Carnegie Foundation Conference, San Francisco, CA, March 2005

RELATED EXPERIENCES:

Current Boards and Committees

Worcester School Committee
Seven Hills Foundation Board of Trustees

Previous Boards and Committees

Hanover Theater Board of Directors
St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee Board of Directors
Greater Worcester Community Foundation Board of
Incorporators
NEASC South High Chairperson for 2000 Accreditation; 2010 Co-Chairperson
Leadership Team for school reform and restructuring, Worcester Public Schools
Webster Square Business Association Board of Directors, Vice President
National AVID Committee Delegate
College Board Northeast Representative
United Way Board of Directors
Worcester Public Library Board of Trustees

Awards

Educator of the Year, Worcester Red Sox, December 2022
AVID Superintendent's Collaborative Award 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018
Family Health Center, Healthy Communities Award 2017
Bottom Line Champion Award 2017
Children's Friend Award 2017
Grand Marshall of St. Patrick's Day Parade 2016
Gate Way Cities Champion 2016
Girls Inc., Fuel Her Fire Award 2016
MA Insight Partners in Excellence Principal Award 2015
Worcester State Community Service Award 2015
Adventist Community Service Award 2015
Worcester Public Schools, Female Administrator of the Year Award 2014
Rotary Club, Service Before Self Award, 2014
Broadway League Educator of the Year Award 2014
Lois Greene Award, United Way, 2013
Go Local Worcester Woman of the Year in Central MA Award 2013
Central MA Housing Alliance Janice Nadeau Memorial Award 2010
The Katharine F. Erskine Award 2009
Thomas S. Green Public Service Award 2008
UNUM Starting Five Award 2008
Salsa of Life Award, Latino Institute 2008
Worcester State University Community Service Award 2007
Webster Square Business Association Educator of the Year Award 2006

References

References will be provided upon request, which include testimony from principals, teachers, parents, students, district personnel, community businesses and partners.