



Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 11, 2021

School Board Names Steve Barnette Interim Superintendent of Paulding County School District

The Paulding County Board of Education has named Steve Barnette interim superintendent effective June 1, 2021. Mr. Barnette is currently the school district's Chief Financial Officer and has served in that role since 2013.

At its May 11, 2021 regular meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Barnette as interim superintendent for a term not to exceed one year.

"We are thrilled to make Steve Barnette our interim superintendent and know he will do a terrific job and will have the full support of our Board, staff and community," said Board Chairman Jeff Fuller. "We have worked with Steve for years and have seen his business acumen as well as his comprehensive understanding of district operations. It is great to know that we have such a strong talent pool within the district that can keep operations running at a high level."

Retiring Superintendent Dr. Otott had kind words for his successor: "I am elated for our District that Mr. Barnette will be transitioning to the role of interim superintendent. Mr. Barnette has a heart for children and our community. It has been my pleasure to serve alongside Steve and know he will lead our district to the next level."



Steve Barnette

Mr. Barnette has an extensive background in school district finance, including his current role overseeing and managing the staff of the PCSD Business Services Department as CFO. Prior to his service in public education, Mr. Barnette was a senior leader with several industry leading technology companies.

Mr. Barnette and his family have made Paulding County their home for the past 20 years. His wife, Tracy, is a career educator and a teacher at Burnt Hickory Elementary School. They are the parents of five children educated in public schools (four of whom came through the Paulding County School District).

"This is a great opportunity and I look forward to serving the students, staff and families of the Paulding County School District in this interim role," said Mr. Barnette. "This is an outstanding school system filled with wonderful people, and I look forward to maintaining that level of excellence until the Board is able to hire a permanent superintendent."