

Harlan County Schools

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For Immediate Release

Tuesday, August 7, 2012

Howard named Superintendent of Harlan County Schools

The Harlan County Board of Education tonight named Timothy Michael Howard as the district's new superintendent. Howard had been serving as interim superintendent since the retirement of Tim Saylor on June 30.

Board of Education Chairman Gary Farmer, said, "First, I would like to thank the search committee members for their hard work. They searched through all the many qualified applicants and came up with three highly qualified finalists that all possess the qualifications and experience that the Board of Education was looking for in our superintendent. After much deliberation, the Board selected Mr. Howard's as a result of his personal knowledge of the district, its finances and community partners. The Board of Education feels he is the perfect fit to lead our district. "

"I am very appreciative of the Board's vote of confidence in me to lead the Harlan County School District," said Howard. "These are challenging times for public schools in many ways, especially in funding and assessment accountability. It is my goal to make certain that the Harlan County School District is financially sound while placing an intense focus on academic improvement."

A native of Harlan County, Howard earned a bachelor's degree at Cedarville College in Cedarville, Ohio, in 1980, a teaching certificate in business at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, TN in 1989, a master's of special education at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, KY, in 1993, and a Rank I in administration from Union College in Barbourville in 1995.

Prior to being name superintendent, he had served as the district's assistant superintendent of finance/personnel since July 2004. Prior to that position he had served as the district's director of facilities for four years, and assistant principal and teacher at James A. Cawood High School.

Howard said he will be equitable with all of the district's schools, vowing to educate Harlan County's students in a safe and clean environment.

In addition to his education experience, Howard has a strong business background, having served as a divisional manager for Belk Simpson and as operator of Finley's Market at Bledsoe for a number of years.

He holds memberships in the Kentucky Association of School Administrators, Kentucky Association of School Business Officials, and the Kentucky School Public Relations Association. He has served as a member of the Harlan County Schools Frank Brittan Academic and Athletic Hall of Fame Board of Directors, Harlan County Chamber of Commerce and the Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors.

In announcing the four-year contract, the Board Chairman noted that Mr. Howard offered several cost saving measures in the contract to benefit the district during these challenging economic times.