3 February 2020

Members of the Rockville Centre Community,

I write today on behalf of the Board of Education to announce that Mr. June Chang will be appointed as the district’s next Superintendent of Schools. We will introduce Mr. Chang at our work session on Wednesday, February 5th at a special reception from 7:30 – 8 pm in the Auditorium at South Side High School. We encourage all members of our school community to meet him!

Mr. Chang is currently the Superintendent of Schools/Chief Executive Officer of the Summit (NJ) Public School District. He will begin his work in Rockville Centre on July 1, 2020, upon the retirement of current Superintendent Dr. William Johnson.

Superintendent Chang’s career arc and professional emphasis is noteworthy, especially in his use of analytics and management theory, and he is an accomplished speaker on the topics of diversity, identity, and leadership.

To date, all of his professional work has been conducted in five New Jersey school districts. He began his career by serving as a teacher in Paterson and New Milford, and quickly ascended to his first administrative position in the Jersey City Public Schools as a District Curriculum Supervisor and Holocaust Education Program Supervisor. He then worked in Midland Park as an Assistant Principal and then Director of Education and Professional Development. He was appointed in 2015 as the Superintendent of Summit Public School District. Summit, a suburb of New York City, is broadly considered to be one of the premier school districts in New Jersey. The district, with more than 4000 students, has two primary centers, five elementary schools, a middle school and a high school.

Mr. Chang holds a BA in English from Rutgers University, an MA in Education from St. Peter’s University, and received his MBA from Columbia Business School. He currently serves as an Adjunct Professor of Leadership and Management at Ramapo College.

As you know, individual and collective leadership in our district has been very stable, which results in consistent progress toward the community’s goals for its schools. To that end, we have been fortunate for the last 34 years to call Bill Johnson our Superintendent of Schools.

Since it has been that long since a new district leader was recruited, the Board spent an appreciable amount of time thinking about all aspects of this important responsibility, and especially how to involve our community in this generational change. We firmly believe the introduction of Mr. Chang is the culmination of a professionally guided, community-based process.
Here’s how it was accomplished:

The Board of Education interviewed search consultants and ultimately chose HYA (Hazard Young Attea) Associates to first engage the RVC community on the development of leadership profile for potential candidates. Focus groups and personal interviews were held with 135 school-community personnel, parents and students, and 521 community members responded to a written survey. The written leadership profile was used as a guide for potential applicants, recruits and screening purposes.

Superintendent Chang was ultimately chosen from a pool of 50 candidates who either directly applied for the position or were recruited to apply by the search consultant. After initial screening, the Board of Education held interviews and follow-up interviews with multiple candidates, along with reference and background checks, before unanimously agreeing to offer the position to Mr. Chang. A site visit was also conducted to hear directly from staff and administration members in Summit.

The contract between Mr. Chang and the district is currently being finalized. In addition, ‘meet and greet’ events between Mr. Chang and school community members will take place well before the start of his employment on July 1st.

This is an exciting time for the Rockville Centre community. Please join the Board of Education in welcoming Superintendent Chang to our community!

Sincerely,

Tara M. Hackett
President, Board of Education