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NEWS

May 23, 2017 – School Board Selects New Superintendent

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School Board Selects New Superintendent

STAUNTON, VA – At a called meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, the Staunton City School Board, by unanimous vote, approved the appointment of Dr. Garrett M. Smith to be the school division's next superintendent. He will assume his duties on July 1, 2017.

Dr. Smith shared, "I am very excited about the opportunity to serve the community as Superintendent of Staunton City Schools. We are going to start out by focusing on three areas: (1) Achievement - working together to get all of our schools accredited as quickly as possible; (2) Advancement - continuing to build on the excellent work that Staunton City Schools has already done with increasing the on-time graduation rate, enrolling more students in Honors and AP courses, and providing high school credit course offerings for middle school students; and (3) Youth Development - ensuring that all students are connected to school through clubs, sports, service projects, the arts, and other activities so that they can maximize their overall educational experience in SCS."

Smith received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, master's degree from Marymount University, and his doctorate in education from the University of Virginia. He is currently the Executive Director of School Leadership in Newport News where he supervises 24 elementary schools and four early childhood centers. Previously, Smith served in various administrative roles including central office positions, middle school principal and elementary school principal, and has taught in both middle and elementary school settings. He has also been an adjunct professor at the University of Virginia and at Old Dominion University for the past 11 years, and was recently named the Old Dominion University Adjunct Professor of the Year.

He is relocating to the area with his wife, Wendy, who is also an educator, and their family. They have two children – a son who just completed his second year as a student at the University of Virginia and a daughter who will be a rising junior at Robert E. Lee High School for the 2017-2018 school year. They are eager to have their family be a part of the Staunton community.

In February 2017, the Staunton City School Board began the process of securing a new superintendent, engaging the services of BWP & Associates to assist with a nationwide search. The Board established a leadership profile to guide BWP in the search after soliciting input from community stakeholders to identify the characteristics most sought in the next leader of the school division. More than 34 candidates from 14 different states applied for the position.

“Dr. Smith brings a wide range of experience to SCS, with 23 years in public education – as teacher, principal, director and most recently as Executive Director of Elementary School Leadership in Newport News – and is looking forward to applying his talents in continuing Dr. Reviea’s work to improve and expand the educational environment for all our students in Staunton,” commented Ronald Ramsey, School Board Chair. “We are pleased to welcome him to Staunton City Schools.”

Smith will take over for Dr. Linda Reviea, who announced her retirement in January 2017, after serving the division since 2012. She will continue to serve until June 30, 2017 and will work with Dr. Smith to ensure a smooth transition.

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