

District selects Thiele as new superintendent

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DOWNERS GROVE – The Community High School District 99 Board of Education unanimously approved the hire of Henry Thiele as its next superintendent during the Dec. 14 board meeting.

Thiele will replace superintendent Mark McDonald, who is retiring June 30.

In selecting the new leader of the district, board members touted Thiele's technology background and the enthusiasm he will bring to the position.

"It was Thiele's innovative spirit and energy that led us to chose him as our new superintendent," board President Nancy Kupka said.

Thiele serves as assistant superin-

tendent for technology and learning at Maine Township District 207 in Park Ridge.

During his tenure, he has led the district through the deployment of several large-scale initiatives such as bringing Google Apps to a K-12 setting, launching a full-scale 1:1 Learning program and transitioning more than half of the district's textbooks to digital platforms.

He also serves a variety of professional organizations, including as president for the Special Education Technology Connections, a nonprofit aimed at assisting special education teachers and students with technology.

Thiele received a Bachelor of Arts in secondary education from Concordia University, earning a double major in instrumental music and physical sciences. He also holds both a Master of Arts in teacher leadership and a doctorate in educational leadership from

Roosevelt University in Chicago.

Before his position in District 207, he worked at James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates as a teacher in the science and music departments and later as the technology coordinator.

Thiele lives in Roselle and serves on the board of education for Roselle School District 12, which he said he will continue to serve on until his term expires in May 2017.

Thiele said he applied for the District 99 position because he thinks his background fits well with the district.

"This is one of the premier districts in the Chicagoland area, so it's an honor to be part of a district like this," he said. "The district that I'm in is very similar to this. There's a lot of similar strengths and background experiences that I think match well with District 99 that will help me be successful here and help continue the tradition of excellence here."



Henry Thiele