



**Leaders in Learning**

**Chicago Ridge School District 127.5**  
Dr. Bernard J. Jumbeck Administrative Center  
6135 W. 108<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago Ridge, IL 60415  
Dr. Kevin B. Russell, Superintendent  
Phone: (708) 636-2000 Fax: (708) 636-0916  
[www.crsd1275.org](http://www.crsd1275.org)

May 24, 2019

**For Immediate Release:**

Contact:

Dr. Kevin B. Russell  
Superintendent of Schools  
708-636-2000  
[krussell@crsd1275.org](mailto:krussell@crsd1275.org)



**District 127.5 Board to Vote on the Appointment of Dr. Adam Thorns as Superintendent**

May 24, 2019– The Chicago Ridge School District 127.5 Board of Education will vote on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at a special meeting located at Finley Junior High to appoint Dr. Adam Thorns as the next Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Thorns will replace Dr. Kevin Russell who is departing the District to become the next Superintendent of Downers Grove Grade School District 58.

Dr. Thorns is a lifelong educator that has extensive experience in South Cook County. Thorns began his career as a social studies teacher at Kolmar Junior High in Midlothian School District 143. He then taught at Shepard High School in District 218 for three years as a social studies teacher and also served as a coach. Thorns returned to District 143 to serve as an administrator for the past 10 years. He has served as an Assistant Principal for five years (three years at Kolmar Junior High School and two years at Central Park Elementary School). The past five years Thorns has served as the Principal of Springfield Elementary School.

There were over 50 applicants that applied for the position and the selection process included multiple interviews with the Board of Education and community forums with the final candidates. In addition, staff, parents, and community members were provided the opportunity to complete a survey so that all stakeholders had the chance to provide input.

Thorns earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Illinois, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Olivet Nazarene University, a Chief School Business Official Certification from Northern Illinois University, and a Doctorate in Education from National Louis University.

Thorns stated, "I am excited and honored to have been chosen as the new Superintendent of District 127.5. I am eager to work collaboratively with the school board, staff, parents and community to build on the great work that has taken place in the District and to continue to offer opportunities for all students to thrive."

Board President Nancy Salzer shared, "Great things are taking place in the District and we look forward to working with Dr. Thorns as our Superintendent. Adam is a terrific person that is dedicated to helping students and staff."

Thorns currently resides in Mokena with his wife Jennifer and three children, Tyler (7), Johnny (5), and Henry (2). He will officially begin on July 1, 2019, but will start the transition process with Dr. Russell immediately.