

Dr. Anthony McConnell Named Superintendent of Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A



The Lemont-Bromberek Combined School District 113A Board of Education voted unanimously at its February 11, 2020 meeting to hire Dr. Anthony McConnell as Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. McConnell currently serves as the Superintendent of Schools for Deerfield Public Schools District #109. He will take over on July 1, 2020 at Lemont-Bromberek for superintendent, Dr. Courtney Orzel. Board President Damon Ascolani stated, "Dr. McConnell is a highly regarded and experienced superintendent who has done amazing work in his prior district. We look forward to him applying his talents in District 113A to continue the tremendous progress that we are making in the district."

Dr. McConnell has served the Deerfield Public School District #109 for the past 7 years. During this time, he has served as an Assistant Principal, Principal, Assistant Superintendent and has served as Superintendent in Deerfield #109 since 2018. Previous to that time, he served as a high school Social Studies teacher at Rock Island High School. Dr. McConnell earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Western Illinois University and holds a Superintendent endorsement.

As principal of Kipling Elementary School, Dr. McConnell led the school in construction of STEM learning spaces, implementation of 1:1 learning, and adoption of *The Leader in Me* process. In his final year as principal, Kipling was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Under McConnell's leadership, the district was recently featured in *Fortune* magazine and named as a Chicagoland Top Places to Work and has 5 out of 6 schools designated as National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence. He is the co-author of *The Principled Principal: 10 Principles for Leading Exceptional Schools*.

Board President Ascolani says that McConnell emerged from over 40 candidates as the best candidate to lead SD113A. Through a rigorous and thorough search process, McConnell interviewed with over 30 stakeholders including parents, community leaders, administrators, staff members and Board members. During the interview process, parents described him as "a student advocate, innovative, and a strategic planner," while community leaders said he's "personable, approachable and genuine," and staff described him as, "experienced, very student-centered, energetic, passionate about what's best for students, and instantly likeable."

"I am so very honored to join the District 113A community," stated Dr. McConnell. "As I have come to know the outstanding teachers, staff, parents, community and Board members in the district, I have learned about their well-deserved pride and the great progress toward meeting district goals. I look forward to continuing working collaboratively with the community to continue that progress. I believe that working together, with a clear focus on students, the possibilities of District 113A are limitless."

Dr. McConnell also serves as a developer and facilitator of the Illinois Principals Association Aspiring Principals Program for the State of Illinois. He and his wife Cayce have 2 children, Aurelia, age 12, and AJ, age 7.

In the next few months, Board of Education President Damon Ascolani will formally introduce Dr. McConnell during voluntary staff and parent meetings that will be held at Old Quarry and the Oakwood/River Valley campus. Details will be provided by building principals.