

BLOOMING GROVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 4, 2015

Dear Friends, Teachers, Parents, and Students:

I am Heath Burns. I am thrilled that the Blooming Grove ISD board of trustees recently named me the lone finalist as superintendent of Blooming Grove Independent School District. In Texas, this required step allows for the board and the community to get to know a candidate even better for 21 days prior to final hiring. Conversely, it allows my family time to get to know the community better to affirm rightness of fit during the 21 days prior to final hiring.

I have been married for 14 years. In fact, my anniversary is this week. My spouse, Cherie, and I have four children, Emma, Eli, Gabe, and Grant. We are very proud of our kids and they are a big reason for our move to a smaller school district. You might find it interesting that Emma and Eli are twins; so are the other two. That's right. We are blessed with two sets of twins, 5th graders and 3rd graders. Some of you may have them in class assuming all progresses well and I am hired at the end of the month.

I realize that change in leadership can be a very scary thing. I assure you that I am a kid lover and a teacher lover. I've enjoyed over 15 years as a superintendent, most recently in Abilene ISD. I also worked in Angleton ISD and Anderson-Shiro CISD as superintendent. In fact, I've asked Mrs. Northern to have my application packets available so you can learn more about me during our visits.

Undoubtedly, you will Google me if you haven't already. We are indeed in the information age. Again, most all of my years as a superintendent have been excellent. In fact, the Abilene ISD board nominated me for superintendent of the year for my region this fall. I was honored when I won that distinction. However, the spring semester provided some very challenging times for my family in AISD resulting in my decision to separate and look for another job. The details surrounding what happened and my choice are outlined in the applications packet for your information. Moreover, I will discuss the situations freely as we meet. You deserve to know who is moving into this very significant position. believe in transparency. Also, you can rest assured that your board GRILLED me. They took this search very seriously and sought the best candidate. I think, as do the board members I believe, that this team of 8 can help BGISD improve and get better.

So, if you are a parent, teacher, student or a community member I invite you to come by and visit with me anytime during the school day, between 8 and 3:30. If you are a school employee I ask that you attend a mandatory meeting at 7:20 am or 3:45 pm on your respective campuses so we can get to know each other a little bit better as we prepare to take this exciting journey together.

I've asked Mrs. Northern to list details and times for meet and greets on the reverse of this letter.

Again, I know that transitions can be scary. However, I know that if we trust each other and take time to get to know each other on a level deeper that can be attained in blogs, 3 inch columns, or 40 second news stories that we can get *off* to a wonderful start built on a foundation of mutual trust, and most importantly, a deep and unabiding desire to serve every child.

I look forward to meeting many of you on Mon, Tues., and Wed, and I hope that I am blessed to be selected by your board to serve as your full time leader.

With love of your children and passion for the Lions, Heath Burns, Ed. D

Dr. Burns will meet with Elementary on Monday, March 9- at 7:20 am and 3:45 pm.

On Tuesday, March 10, Dr Burns will meet with Junior High and High School at 7:20 am and 3:45 pm

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