

**NEWS RELEASE: For immediate release**

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**Vestal Seeks Successor for Superintendent of Schools**

With the planned retirement of Superintendent of Schools Mark Capobianco effective March 1, 2010, the Vestal Board of Education will be conducting a search for his successor during the next few months.

The timing of this search has been expedited in part due to the announcement retirement of other key positions in the Vestal School District, including a principal and the Deputy Superintendent, Keith Olivet, who will be leaving in June 2010. This time frame will allow a new superintendent to have the benefit of Mr. Olivet's expertise during a budget-planning cycle and also the ability to participate in the hiring of key positions that will become open in the district at the end of this school year.

The Board of Education enlisted input from several focus groups, including Vestal School District staff, parents, students and community members, to identify the qualities, characteristics and experience they feel are important for the next superintendent to possess. This information will be of great value to the Board as it strives to select the leader best suited for our district.

Final interviews will be conducted at the beginning of January, with a decision anticipated by February 1, 2010.

Mark Capobianco has served the Vestal School District for 20 years, supporting Vestal students and their families as Director of Pupil Personnel Services for six years before moving to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Instruction in 1995. In September of 2001, Mr. Capobianco was named Vestal's Superintendent of Schools. He has contributed greatly to the community as well, serving on the campaign cabinet and the board of the Broome County United Way and chairing their annual giving campaign last year. He has been a member of Vestal's Rotary International chapter for nine years and is also on the boards of the Broome Leadership Institute, the Greater Binghamton Educational Opportunities Program, Vestal Dollars for Scholars and the Vestal School Foundation.

The Vestal Board of Education joins the Vestal School District in wishing Mr. Capobianco all the best in his retirement and thanks him for his years of dedicated service to the district, its students and community.