



NJDOE News

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Deputy Commissioner Pfennig Appointed Superintendent in NE Pennsylvania

Deputy Commissioner of Education Dwight R. Pfennig announced today that he has been named superintendent of the Pocono Mountain School District in Swiftwater, Pennsylvania, and will be leaving his current position on June 30.

Dr. Pfennig has served as Deputy Commissioner since February, 2002. For 14 years prior to joining DOE, he served as superintendent of schools in three New Jersey districts: The Morris School District (seven years), North Plainfield (four years) and Keyport (three years).

"The Pocono Mountain school district is extremely fortunate to have selected a new superintendent with such an exceptional level of experience and such strong leadership credentials," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera.

"Dwight has played a key role in every initiative undertaken by this department over the past three years, and I have been very proud to work with him. His dedication and commitment to improving the quality of education in this state is unparalleled, and his presence will be sorely missed on this side of the Delaware," Commissioner Librera said.

As Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Pfennig also oversaw the offices of the State Board of Education, the State Board of Appeals and DOE Information and Educational Technology, Human Resources and Administration, and Public Information.

He was the DOE Liaison to the New Jersey Task Force on Domestic Security Preparedness and served on the department's intervention planning team that assists districts in developing solutions for critical fiscal, educational and governance issues.

During his 30-year career in education, he has worked as a middle school principal, elementary school principal, high school vice-principal and teacher of English at the high school level, and served on his local Board of Education.

Dr. Pfennig, 56, received his Masters Degree and Doctorate in Educational Administration from Seton Hall University. He has participated in seven Harvard University Superintendent Seminars and is a trainer in the Harvard School of Business model of negotiations. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University and the College of St. Elizabeth.

The Pocono Mountain School District includes eight municipalities and covers 305 square miles in northeastern Pennsylvania. More than 11,700 students are enrolled in 12 schools. With enrollment increases averaging about four percent each year, it is one of the fastest-growing districts in Pennsylvania.